NMTI to partner with PSS on vocational trades. PAGE 8
Guma Hustisia remains closed. PAGE 9

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

Woman drowns on Managaha

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 69-year-old woman reportedly drowned while swimming on Managaha Island yesterday morning.

Department of Public Safety information officer Jacqueline Rae Shepard said the victim, a Chinese national, was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center, where a medical staff pronounced her dead at 10:50am.

Shepard said DPS received a call about a drowning incident on Managaha Island at 10:34am.

Investigation showed that the victim was swimming with her sister. The sister told her to swim in the shallow area while she stepped away.

See WOMAN on Page 4

Man sought in San Antonio fire

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services is seeking the community's help in identifying and locating a man who has been tagged as a person of interest in the fire that gutted three buildings in San Antonio Monday afternoon.

DFEMS acting spokesperson Bobbie Jean DLC. Tai-

See MAN on Page 4

Two firefighters spray water into one of the three buildings engulfed in flames in San Antonio Monday afternoon. Investigators say that the blaze originated from an abandoned Sablan Construction warehouse.

BOBBIE JEAN DLG. TAISACAN

Olbes walks off with hat trophy in Sophia Walk

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The 19th Annual Sophia Walk that was held last Saturday featured, for the first time, a hat competition that was judged by former first lady Sophia Tenorio herself, for whom the walk was named after.

See OLBES on Page 4

Helen Olbes, left, the 19th Annual Sophia Walk hat competition winner, poses with her handmade hat and former first lady Sophia Tenorio last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Resolution vs cockfighting ban pushed

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A Tinian lawmaker thinks a resolution would suitably convey the CNMI's opposition to a proposed ban on cockfighting in U.S. territories, including the CNMI.

Rep. Edwin Aldan (R-Tinian) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a resolution must be drafted—whether through the delegation or the Legislature—to oppose a proposed federal ban on cockfighting.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed last week

See RESOLUTION on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
U.S. health regulators approve the first prescription drug made from marijuana.

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ASIA
Philippine President Rodrogo Duterte has sparked new outrage by calling God "stupid."

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LIFE & STYLE
Street artist Banksy is believed to have taken his message on migration to Paris.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Daniel Muna Quitugua, in green robe, poses with four other participants of the Drug Offender Re-entry Program, DORE committee member Janet H. King, and U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona during a graduation ceremony in federal court yesterday afternoon. Quitugua is the third person to graduate from DORE Program. FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Daniel Muna Quitugua is 3rd DORE graduate

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Daniel Muna Quitugua, 39, started smoking marijuana at the age of 12 and began using methamphetamine or "ice" at 14. He spent most of his adult life in prison for various offenses. Yesterday, he graduated from the federal court's Drug Offender Re-entry Program.

"I just want to focus on my life, my job, my family," said the tearful Quitugua, speaking on the podium shortly after U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona presented him with a certificate of completion.

Quitugua was accepted to the DORE Program in December 2016. He became the third person to graduate from the DORE program. "Drug Court helped me realize the real me," he said.

Of Manglona, Quitugua said: "She believes in me. I got a second chance to get a better life."

He was also thankful to DORE team members, whom he described as family.

Quitugua's supervised release will now expire on Sept. 11, 2018, instead of 2019.

Manglona said Quitugua has passed all drug and alcohol tests, paid restitution, attended all counseling sessions, and is now employed.

She said the DORE Program is intended to help people like Quitugua. She recalled that, in the first three months with the DORE Program, Quitugua had a lot of troubles. Quitugua almost got kicked out of the program.

Attorney Janet H. King served as the guest speaker during the graduation ceremony. King used to serve as co-counsel of attorney Michael Dotts in one of Quitugua's cases. Dotts was also present in the courtroom.

The DORE Program is a post-incarceration cooperative effort program of the U.S. District Court, U.S. Probation Office, Federal Public Defender, and U.S. Attorney's Office.

DORE provides treatment and sanction alternatives to address re-integration into the community for non-violent, substance abuse offenders released from federal prison.

Quitugua was convicted in federal court in 2005 for conspiracy to commit Hobbs Act robbery and using and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence.

In April 2005, the federal court slapped Quitugua with a 120-month prison term, followed by a five-year supervised release over an armed robbery at a poker establishment in 2004. Quitugua's supervised release began on Jan. 14, 2013. His supervised release was revoked several times.

In July 2014, Quitugua pleaded guilty to resisting arrest and was slapped by the Superior Court with a six-month prison term.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced him to six months in prison, but gave him credit for time served.

Police arrested Quitugua for allegedly over-speeding, running away from police officers, and leaving a bag that contained three illegal guns and bullets near Northern Marianas College on May 23, 2014.

An indictment was then filed in federal court, charging Quitugua with one count of felon in possession of firearm in connection with his arrest near NMC.

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Proposed nursing scholarship extended from 5 to 6 years

A proposed nursing scholarship program, which originally had a five-year term before its sunset provision kicks in, will now expire in six years instead of the initial proposal.

The House Education Committee, led by Rep. Edwin Aldan (R-Tinian), amended in yesterday's meeting on Capital Hill Senate President Arnold I. Palacios' (R-Saipan) Senate Bill 20-71 that creates the five-year nursing scholarship.

Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz's (R-Saipan) amendment would let the scholarship run for six years instead of the initial proposal of five years. Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) pointed out that Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. representative Kaitlyn Neises had noted that an individual may take the National Council Licensure Exam to become a registered nurse without prior education. The representative further noted that the Northern Marianas College offers a two-year associate degree course in nursing, and that several of its graduates have passed the NCLEX.

Propst noted that, with a running length of six years, the scholarship may provide assistance to at least three cycles of nurses, given that they each take two years for their associate degree at NMC and then proceed to take the NCLEX.

Rep. Blas "BJ" Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan) removed private health clinics from the possible employers of nurses who avail of this scholarship.

Palacios' bill had been amended in the Senate to mandate those who avail of the scholarship to serve in the CNMI's public health clinics for two years per year of scholarship assistance and three years in CNMI private health clinics for each year of scholarship assistance.

Attao explained to the committee that removing this provision from the bill allows nursing graduates to fill the gap that would be made by the CW-1 nursing shortage. He added that allowing the scholars to serve in a private health clinic would "defeat the intent of the bill," which is to help alleviate nursing shortages at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Rep. Alice Igitol (R-Saipan) moved to delete a provisional requirement in the bill that limits Rota and Tinian nursing scholarship applicants to three each. The amendment was adopted unanimously.

Attao further proposed deleting a provision that prohibits applicants for the scholarship from seeking additional financial assistance funded by the CNMI government. That includes municipal scholarships, CNMI Scholarship programs, and the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance.

The bill was finally amended to include nursing students who opt to pursue their studies abroad. The committee agreed to allow students who are enrolled in the nursing program of NMC or nursing programs offered by "other U.S. accredited institutions."

Attao and Propst voted against the bill since the bill was amended to include students who pursue nursing abroad.

According to their explanations, Attao and Propst wanted to assist NMC in building their numbers of nursing students in order to ultimately seek accreditation of their nursing program, which Neises noted is not a requirement for a student to take the NCLEX.

The bill now moves out of the committee and into the House floor for discussion in a future session. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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DESPITE GOVERNOR'S WISHES

SC: AG may decline to appeal judgment

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the attorney general may decline to appeal an adverse judgment despite the wishes of the governor or a client government agency.

The justices also ruled that the governor or client agency may not hire, without a grant or authority from the AG, outside counsel to prosecute the appeal.

Associate Justice John A. Manglona penned the high court's decision. Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and Associate Justice Perry B. Inos concurred.

Castro, however, wrote separately to underscore the fine line between the "legal affairs" and the "public policy decisions" of the Commonwealth.

Castro said the AG has absolute discretion in filing, prosecuting, and appealing a criminal case.

In civil cases, however, where the issue touches upon or threatens the "integrity of the Covenant" or the "NMI Constitution," the AG—while he has the authority to exercise his discretion—should defer to the governor whether to appeal an adverse judgment because that involves public policy decision-making authority which the governor has been elected by the people to so decide, Castro said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and AG Edward Manibusan filed before the CNMI Supreme Court two certified questions pertaining to an appeal on voting right ruling.

Torres and Manibusan raised the question whether the AG may decline to appeal an adverse judgment despite the wishes of the governor or a client government agency.

The two officials also asked whether the governor or client agency may hire, without the AG's prior approval, an outside lawyer to prosecute the appeal.

Torres wrote a letter in July 2017 to the U.S. Supreme Court's clerk of court to rebut Manibusan's letter that says the petition that Torres and the Commonwealth Election Commission filed about the voting right issue before the high court was unauthorized.

In the letter, Torres asked the U.S. Supreme Court's clerk of court to disregard Manibusan's "attempt to cast doubt" on the petition for certiorari, since he and the other petitioners endorse, approve and authorize it in full.

The petition seeks a re-examination of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit's decision affirming U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's ruling that voters who are not of Northern Marianas descent must be able to vote on Article 12 initiative and any other initiatives to amend Article 12.

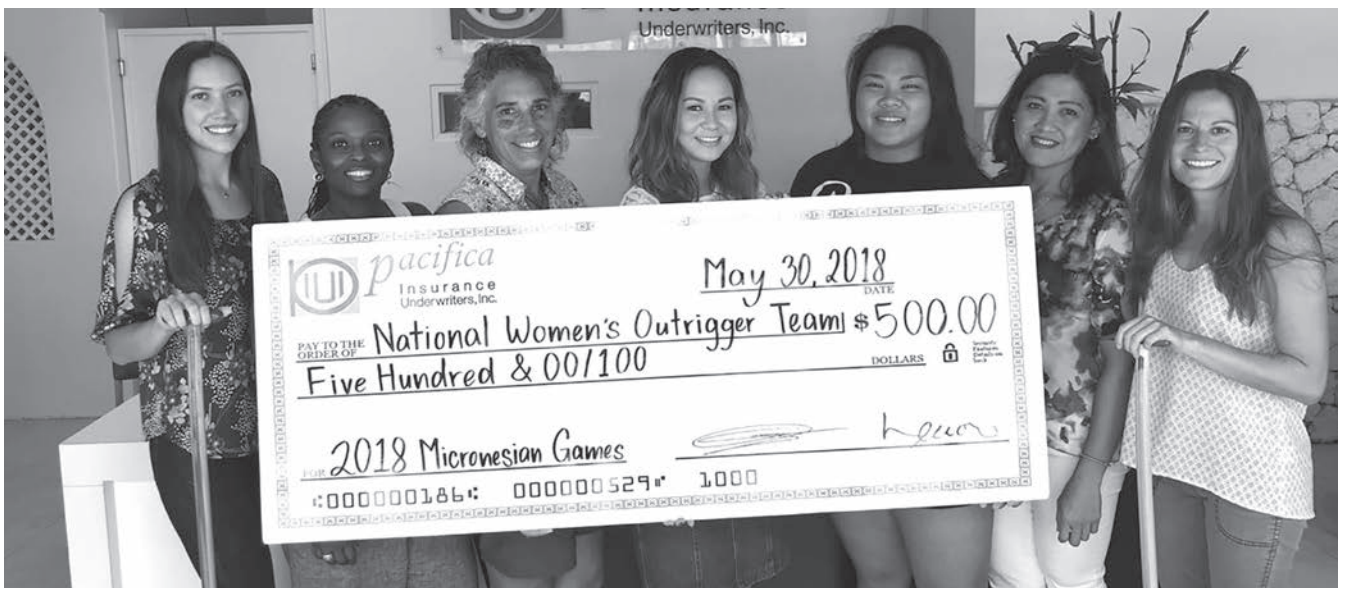
The U.S. Supreme Court's office of the clerk informed the 9th Circuit that the petition filed by Torres, CEC, and CEC officials has been denied.

Joseph Horey, who represents the Northern Marianas Descent Corp., filed the petition on behalf of Torres, CEC, and CEC officials.

Manibusan informed the U.S. Supreme Court's clerk of court in a letter dated June 20, 2017, that such filing was unauthorized.

In the CNMI Supreme ruling, Manglona and Inos said the text of the NMI Constitution—not common law powers—bestows the AG the power and responsibility to prosecute cases and appeals and to represent the Commonwealth.

Manglona and Inos said they find unreasonable to assume the NMI Constitution was based upon the cases cited by petitioners Torres and Manibusan because the CNMI's legislative history is silent as to which jurisdiction the framers sought guidance from in drafting the NMI Constitution.



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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RESOLUTION

From Page 1

the 2018 Farm Bill, which includes a provision that extends the federal ban on cockfighting to U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the CNMI.

"For us, especially, that is a cruel punishment. This is culture [that we have been practicing] since the Spanish times," Aldan told *Saipan Tribune*. Spain colonized Saipan and Tinian since the mid-1500s to 1899. "We didn't have baseball and bowling back then. [All we had] was culture."

He said this ploy by the U.S. House to "sneakily" ban a practice of cultural significance is "uncalled for."

Aldan noted that even with the recent passage of legislation that protects animal rights in the CNMI, the author "made sure to be mindful" of cockfighting, that the practice is recognized legally and is regulated by law per senatorial district.

Several local lawmakers have expressed opposition to banning cockfighting here. Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) believes it could possibly be a violation of the Covenant, which created the CNMI-U.S. political relationship in the first place.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said in a previous statement that the provision was included in the 2018 Farm Bill without comments from citizens of the CNMI. He is concerned about the federal government overriding local legislation without prior local consultation.

All five delegates from the U.S. territories opposed the amendment, saying it would unjustly supersede local laws and regulations on cockfighting, and it would impose a federal ban without any opportunity for the delegates to provide input or consent to the legislation.

House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) agrees. He believes that policies pertaining to cockfighting should lie within the prerogative of each territory and not mandated "singlehandedly" by the U.S. Congress or federal government.

The 2018 Farm Bill is headed to the U.S. Senate for review and action. Sablan also noted that the new Farm Bill did not include provision to fund the CNMI for E-NAP food assistance programs.

Sablan also noted that, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the NMI government is reportedly sitting on $23 million in excess funding from the 2014 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill is legislation that is renewed every five years.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has yet to issue a statement on the 2018 Farm Bill.

OLBES

From Page 1

Out of over a hundred unique, hand-made hats, the Best Hat title went to Helen Olbes. Along with the title came a one-night stay at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and dinner at Fiesta's Tepanyakki Restaurant.

Her hat was a dark navy blue with a huge orange "Sophia" sewn into it across the front. The hat was also adorned with crystal-like stones formed into a latte stone.

Olbes also included tulle to represent ocean waves and butterflies to represent wisdom.

She said the creation of her hat took a few days but, besides the fact that her hard work paid off, she also ultimately enjoyed creating her winning hat.

"I just take some time to work on it after office hours, so it took me several days…I actually had fun creating this hat," she said.

According to Tenorio, Olbes' hat stood out because it was the only one that incorporated the term "Sophia" into the design.

Olbes said extensive research went into the creation of her hat, but its design was ultimately inspired by Tenorio herself.

"I was thinking of what I can create that shows it's really meant for Sophia so I said, 'I should put the name Sophia on the hat' and because Sophia is from Saipan, I thought to add something that represents the islands, that's why I included some [latte] stones," she said.

"I also got curious as to what Sophia means, so I searched for its meaning and I saw that its biblical meaning is wisdom and I checked on the verse for wisdom and I was able to get Proverbs 9:10," she added.

The hat competition was intended to spice up the event, with Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan coming up with the idea to include a fun competition for walkers to look forward to.

WOMAN

From Page 1

When the sister returned, the victim was already lying on the sand and bystanders had already called 911.

Managaha staff arrived with the victim at the Smiling Cove Marina at 10:46am. Medics who were standing by brought the victim to CHC.

MAN

From Page 1

sacan described the person of interest as in his mid-40s, a local, and possibly homeless.

She said the man lived in the vicinity of the old Sablan Construction warehouse in Afetnas.

Taisacan said witnesses saw this person at the scene prior to the arrival of first responders on Monday at 4:40pm.

"If you have information regarding this person or of the fire please contact DFEMS at 664-9004 for the office of enforcement," she said.

Fire investigators have determined that Monday's fire started in the abandoned Sablan Construction warehouse. Investigators are still processing the scene, according to Taisacan.

She said the fire spread to an adjacent warehouse—an abandoned United International Corp. building—which sustained total damage.

When firefighters arrived at the scene, the abandoned Sablan warehouse was already fully engulfed in flames.

DFEMS received a call from the Department of Public Safety's 911 about the fire in San Antonio at 4:40pm.

Firefighters and emergency medical technicians from Garapan, Sususpe, and Koblerville fire stations responded. Mutual aid agencies were then contacted.

Taisacan said that Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew arrived at 5:12pm to shut off power to the buildings and activate fire hydrants in the area.

Commonwealth Ports Authority's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting team assisted on the south side of the fire scene. American Red Cross personnel and volunteers assisted displaced residents who lived in the area.

Saipan Tribune learned that at least four persons occupied one building that was burned to the ground.

Taisacan said the fire was placed under control at 5:40pm and that no one was injured.

Taisacan said residents in the area first witnessed the abandoned Sablan Construction warehouse on fire.

She said the DFEMS responding unit confirmed that the abandoned warehouse was already fully engulfed in flames when they arrived.

At the time, the blaze was traveling south toward the adjacent UIC warehouse. Firefighters suppressed the blaze and prevented it from moving toward other warehouses in the UIC compound.

On Nov. 17, 2011, three fires broke out close to each other in San Antonio, Chalan Piao, and Chalan Kanoa. Investigators at the time suspected that two of those fires were intentionally set off.

Fire investigators confirmed that 11 fires that occurred from November 2011 to February 2012 in the southern part of Saipan were all arson-related incidents. No one was arrested and prosecuted in those cases.

Labor, NAP tighten work registration requirements

The CNMI Department of Labor Division of Employment Services and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Nutrition Assistance Program recently inked an agreement to improve the process of administration and implementation of the Work Registration Program.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, the collaboration between the two agencies has become increasingly important as the CNMI continues to face labor shortages.

The memorandum of agreement lays out more efficient and stronger standards to help people get into good paying jobs while steadily becoming self-sufficient, Torres said.

He credited Labor Secretary Diego Benavente, DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter, Employment Services director Eugene Tebuteb, and NAP director Walter Macaranas for being at the forefront of ensuring that NAP recipients continue to get their benefits while also having the opportunity to be employed.

"We look forward to making this program empower and assist our recipients," Torres said.

Earlier this year, the MOA was amended to allow Labor staff to commute to the NAP facility in As Lito to assist with the work registration of NAP recipients.

Members of the CNMI State Workforce Development Board. Seated, from left, Wayne Sanchez, Josephine Mesta, Vicky Benavente, and Annie Hayes. Back, from left, Dr. Carmen Hernandez, Polly Masga, Lorraine Maui, Nicole Babauta, David Attao, Bertha DL Guerrero, and Velma Palacios.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Benavente said that since the implementation of the MOA amendment, 71 NAP recipients have been work registered by DOL at NAP facilities during NAP's issuance of benefits days.

"We continue to see the difficulties with commuting, especially toward [Capital] Hill, but we are seeing our numbers improve because of this collaborative effort. Ultimately, our two agencies are working in tandem to develop and strengthen the labor force and encourage NAP recipients to seek a career path with the assistance of DOL. The ultimate goal is to help our community with attaining financial independence," Benavente said.

Macaranas shared that 29 NAP recipients have been referred to various companies and are currently employed.

Of the 29 now-working individuals, 20 have filled CW positions that were up for renewal in various industries such as food services, installation and repair, legal services, car rentals, and gas companies.

These newly hired applicants have been hired as food servers, cashiers, supervisors, housekeepers, cooks, warehousemen, maintenance technicians, legal secretaries, childcare workers, and managers.

Macaranas reiterated that the ongoing collaboration has been improving work participation.

"With the insight of the Division of Employment Services, the number of work registrants have dropped to 345 for April 2018 compared to 416 in April 2017. Based on information received from the employers who participated at the NAP/DOL job fair at the Nutrition Assistance Program office in January 2018, five work registrants were confirmed to be hired and are currently maintaining those jobs. We are certain that more have been hired through the job fair; however, we respect the hiring process of the participating employers and that we are giving them ample time to confirm those numbers to us. Aside from the 29 that were hired under the NAP/DOL work registration process, NAP has recorded 23 other NAP recipients have found employment from their own cognizance or endeavor," Macaranas said.

From January 2018 to May 2018, 53 individuals were disqualified from NAP participation due to non-compliance with work registration requirements.

Benavente said the reasons for non-compliance were failure on the individuals' part to re-register with the employment services office, or that the individuals failed to show up for a job interview, or have declined an offer for employment without good cause.

Tebuteb noted that DES sees that obtaining a job is only the first of many steps to sustaining a career and professional growth.

"Understanding the intricacies of the actual workplace is the best first step to identify potential barriers, and to alleviate or eliminate potential barriers. To truly understand what happens at work sites for our registrants, we have taken a step further and have been conducting regular visitations," he said.

Ongoing initiatives

Benavente said that DES conducted follow ups with recently hired individuals on a case-by-case basis.

"We recognized how critical a follow-through is for those entering the workforce for the first time or after a long period of unemployment. With the increased demand for a local workforce and because of the complexity of today's labor issues, DES has made it a goal to play a more proactive role in servicing the needs of recently hired workers and to address turnover before it's too late," she said.

The DES reports that it conducted its first follow-up at Saipan World Resort, performing an hourlong on-site visit to a recently hired U.S. status qualified job applicant.

During this visit, the recent hire was interviewed and asked to complete surveys and questionnaires.

Tebuteb stated that in addition to assisting the work registrants and the public in offering employment and training services, DOL remains committed to ensuring that newly hired applicants are thriving in their new roles.

DES plans to conduct semi-monthly visits and are targeting 24 clients this year. To date, they have successfully completed five follow-up visits and plan to increase their target number to 48 in the next calendar year.

For more information on the Division of Employment Services, log on to www.marianaslabor.net or call (670) 664-3190, (670) 322-0996 or (670) 322-9934/9935. ***(PR)***

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING THE SECTION 106 REVIEW AND UTILIZATION OF TREATMENT MEASURES TO RESOLVE ADVERSE EFFECTS TO AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE ON KANNAT TABLA ROAD ON THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN, UNDER FEMA'S HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM- SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT

Typhoon Soudelor impacted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) in August of 2015, resulting in the federally declared disaster FEMA-4235-DR. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is issuing this public notice as a part of its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended. This notice applies to activities carried out by FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) which is authorized by §404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

FEMA's HMGP Program provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster. FEMA received an application for funding from the CNMI Department of Public Works for drainage improvements intended to mitigate flooding and erosion along Kannat Tabla Road on the Island of Saipan (Undertaking). The Undertaking will involve drainage and road improvements associated with the collection of storm water runoff from the road and conveyance to the existing CMS Quarry, where it is expected to infiltrate.

The Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, require FEMA, as the funding agency, to identify if any properties within the project area are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); to assess the effects the undertaking will have on historic properties; and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.

In advance of approving this undertaking, FEMA conducted preliminary consultations regarding the scope of historic property identification requirements between the CNMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO) Personnel, and Southeastern Archaeological Research Inc. (SEARCH), working on behalf of FEMA. An Archaeological Research Design was developed in compliance with the requirements of the CNMI Historic Preservation Act of 1982 (Public Law 3-39), Section 106 of the NHPA, and consultation with the CNMI-HPO in accordance with the *"Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Historic Preservation Officer, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management"* (PA) Stipulation II.C.

An archaeological survey of the area of potential effects resulted in the identification and documentation of archaeological site SP-1-1047, a prehistoric ceramic and shell midden, which was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield information regarding the temporal association, nature, and function of prehistoric habitation settlements within Saipan's interior upland environments.

FEMA determined the ground disturbance necessary for the drainage improvements will adversely effect site SP-1-1047, and recommended a Treatment Plan in the form of archaeological data recovery prior to implementation of the project, and monitoring by a qualified archaeologist during all ground disturbing construction related to the Kannat Tabla. The CNMI-HPO has concurred with this recommendation. FEMA is also inviting members of the public to comment on the FEMA-funded action and provide any comments and suggestions including ways to mitigate the adverse effects.

Comments and requests regarding the Treatment Measures may be submitted to FEMA for a 14-day period beginning June 20, 2018 and may be submitted via email at: FEMA-RIX-EHP-Documents@fema.dhs.gov or by regular mail. Mailed comments and requests must be postmarked by July 10, 2018 and sent to:

Alessandro Amaglio, Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, CA, 94607

JKPL cuts library summer program short

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, which has been hosting a summer program throughout the entire summer for years, has decided to cut this year's program down to two weeks in order to hold an outreach program.

According to JKPL children's librarian Rosalinda Ulloa, the shorter summer program would allow them to go out to other villages in the CNMI throughout the summer and offer the summer program to children who don't have the means to make it to the library.

"This is our summer camp completion program hosted by our Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and the reason we did the completion [program] after two weeks only is because we will be doing outreach events as well…we will be going into different villages for the same program for the less fortunate kids who cannot make it here and lack transportation," she said.

Ulloa said that the outreach will cater to each village for one week and will move on to the next for the remainder of the summer.

"[The outreach] is shorter, about a week. Every week we will have different villages to go to," she said.

Ulloa said the outreach will strive to offer the same activities offered to the students who participate in the actual summer program at the library.

"We had computer sessions, we did a lot of reading…and we also did a lot of music and movement because we wanted to make sure our students keep themselves fit and in order for them to continue living healthy lives. We also did a lot of gardening…eating healthy, played sports, and we did a lot of arts and crafts," she said.

Over 100 students completed the two-week 2018 Summer Program and were recognized for their efforts last Friday.

"We have 175 total kids today. We had 88 for the morning session and close to 86 for the afternoon session… the program was for ages 6 to 12 years old," she said.

Last Friday, the students were treated to a little fun fair organized by the library as an incentive for their cooperation throughout the program.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PROGRAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION FOR BID
ITB18-GOV-113

Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters -Rota Courthouse Building

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program are soliciting sealed bids for the supply and installation of typhoon shutters at the Rota Courthouse Building on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available June 20, 2018 at the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt must be presented when obtaining a package. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference followed by site visitation on Rota for this project on July 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m. at the Rota Courthouse. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Leona DLG. Sablan in writing by e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com, on or before July 13, 2018 to the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked ITB18-GOV-113 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters- Rota Courthouse Building. **For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST, July 20, 2018.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST, July 20, 2018 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 20, 2018 and the bid documents must be received no later than July 31, 2018. Failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply , Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:00 a.m. ChST, August 1, 2018. **However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:00 a.m. ChST July 20, 2018.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Special Assistant for Management and Budget

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-18-019

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-18-019 – Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Dela Cruz represents Tinian at casino commission

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former Tinian mayor has been sworn into the Commonwealth Casino Commission representing Tinian after their resident representative's term expired in May 2018.

Former Tinian mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz was nominated by Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas as the Tinian representative for the commission that regulates the gaming industry on Saipan.

In a written statement from Dela Cruz, he says he was caught off guard by the nomination, but added that he would make sure to use his new position to ensure that the "casino industry is compliant with local and federal laws and at the same time ensure that the casino [industry's] sustainability [is maintained] amidst the many challenges here in our Commonwealth."

"I will work aggressively with the commission members, Department of Labor, Northern Marianas College, Northern Marianas Trade Institute, Work[force] Investment Agency, and others to train our *manhoben* in all areas of casino and hospitality industry [to] maximize job opportunities for all qualified local residents," he wrote.

Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who chairs the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, said that he, along with the other members of the delegation, trust in Dela Cruz's ability to perform in the commission.

Tinian delegation recalls $368,555 appropriation bill

The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation recalled yesterday an appropriation bill for further amendment.

The delegation, led by vice chair Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian), recalled and amended Rep. Edwin Aldan's (R-Tinian) House Local Bill 20-71 yesterday.

The bill seeks to re-appropriate $368,555 of the $1.7 million reimbursement to Tinian for the payment of obligations previously owed by the central government under Public Law 7-31. The delegation previously unanimously supported the bill.

P.L. 7-31 previously raised the salaries of government employees; however, the previous Legislature failed to first identify funds for the raise, causing the delegations for Saipan and Tinian to lend delegation funds to the central government to satisfy the requirement.

Aldan's H.L.B. 20-71 proposes to use the funds for the Tinian Mayor's Office "personnel operations."

In an interview, Aldan thought "personnel operations" was too ambiguous and might be vetoed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres when it gets to his desk.

The delegation recalled and then amended the bill to specify that the funding would be for the Tinian Mayor's Office hiring of at least 15 community workers.

The delegation approved the amendment of Aldan and ultimately passed the bill unanimously. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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$9,995

2013 MAZDA CX-5 TOURING SPORT
STOCK # D0100198
FWD, 2.0 LTR 4 CYL, 6 SPEED Automatic, Mileage: 44,350
$15,995

2011 FORD EXPLORER XLT
STOCK # BGA29023
4WD, V6, 3.5 Liter, Auto 6-Spd w/Overdrive Est. Mileage: 46,408
$16,995

2013 NISSAN MURANO SV
STOCK # DW202670
FWD, V6, 3.5 Liter, Automatic, CVT Est. Mileage: 60,291
$16,995

2013 NISSAN ALTIMA SV
STOCK # DC106312
FWD, 4-Cyl, 2.5 Liter, Automatic, Xtronic CVT, Est. Mileage: 37,488
$16,995

2013 FORD EDGE SEL
STOCK # DBB08691
2WD, 3.5 L V6, Auto, 6-Spd w/SelShft Est. Mileage: 27,000
$17,995

2016 KIA SOUL EX
STOCK # G7313155
FWD, 2.0 L DOHC 16 valves, Automatic, Mileage: 23,540
$18,995

2016 KIA SOUL EX
STOCK # G7379546
FWD, 2.0 LTR DOHC, Automatic, Mileage: 22,050
$18,995

2015 NISSAN ALTIMA
STOCK # FC469947
FWD, 4-Cyl, 2.5 Liter, Auto, Xtronic CVT Est. Mileage: 3,618
$18,995

2014 KIA SPORTAGE EX
STOCK # E7621488
FWD, 4-Cyl, GDI, 2.4 Liter, 6-Speed Sportmatic, Est. Mileage: 7,858
$19,995

2013 NISSAN PATHFINDER
STOCK # DC676044
4WD, V6, 3.5 Liter, Automatic, CVT Mileage: 23,188
$21,995

2013 NISSAN PATHFINDER SV
STOCK # DC676779
4WD, V6, 3.5 Liter, Automatic, CVT Mileage: 29,888
$21,995

2013 NISSAN MAXIMA SV
STOCK # DC816012
FWD, V6, 3.5 Liter, Automatic, CVT Est. Mileage: 23,048
$22,995

2014 NISSAN MAXIMA SV
STOCK # EC434607
FWD, 3.5 LTR 6-CYL, Automatic Est. Mileage: 25,775
$22,995

2014 HONDA ACCORD EX-L
STOCK # EA013714
FWD, V6, i-VTEC, 3.5 Liter, Auto, CVT with Sport Mode, Mileage: 8,487
$23,995

2016 KIA SEDONA EX
STOCK # G6205586
FWD, V6, 3.3 Liter, Auto, 6-Spd OD Sportmatic Est. Mileage: 33,235
$24,995

2017 NISSAN FRONTIER SV
STOCK # HN710390
4WD, V6, 4.0 Liter, Automatic, 5-Spd Est. Mileage: 8,808
$24,995

2017 KIA SEDONA EX
STOCK # H6302223
FWD, V6 3.3 Liter, Auto, 6-Spd OD Sportmatic, Mileage: 18,548
$26,995

2017 KIA SPORTAGE SX TURBO
STOCK # H7046774
FWD, 2.0 LITER, Automatic Est. Mileage: 12,708
$28,995

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DFS DONATES TO HANMI

DFS Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce presents an exclusive hole-in-one sponsorship donation to the 17th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament Committee on June 25, 2018, at the T Galleria office on Saipan. Pictured from left are Socorro Huliganga of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Rommell Bartolo of Pacific Islands Club Saipan, DFS Saipan assistant GM of Operations Ben Babauta, Das Krishnan of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Pierce, and Glenn Policare of Kanoa Resort. The tournament will be held on July 14, 2018, at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort. MVA

NMTI to partner with PSS on vocational trades

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute is teaming up with the CNMI Public School System in order to offer various vocational skills to high school students.

The idea is to develop a curriculum that would offer vocational trade from the ninth all the way to the 12th grade, according to NMTI chief executive officer Agnes McPhetres in last Friday night's Denim & Diamonds Gala at Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall.

It is not yet known if the trades program would start this coming school year, but the overall goal is to curb the dropout rate among high school students, McPhetres said, "so that they will have options while they are going to school. By the time they graduate from high school, they will have their diplomas plus a certificate in some trades area."

She said NMTI's partnership with PSS would give students the chance to either work part-time or join the CNMI labor force full-time once they graduate from high school. "And when they reach their senior year they would be able to be employed because they will have the skills by then," McPhetres said.

"We have this memorandum of agreement with the [CNMI Board of Education] that the students could benefit from it, so that we don't have to duplicate the programs," she said.

McPhetres added that NMTI's programs are not limited to high school graduates or the youth as anyone can learn trades skills. "We are open to any age."

Congratulations

Triple J board chair Robert H. Jones congratulated McPhetres and the entire NMTI board for the trades programs that they offer, most especially in the culinary arts that help ease workforce issues in the CNMI.

"I congratulate [McPhetres] and her group for the progress they've made. I've seen the ups and downs of our economy, and the challenges of securing a workforce to do the job. We're not going to get the problem solved unless we train local people to do the job long-term," Jones said.

"It's been a pleasure to work alongside Agnes and NMTI in the culinary arts program to reinvest in our employees. It's been my pleasure to make what little contribution we have on behalf of my family and employees."

He thanked Triple J's 918-strong labor force in Micronesia—the CNMI, Guam, the Marshall Islands, and Palau—for their success and the reason behind the Robert H. Jones Award for Student Achievement in Culinary Arts.

"I have the best group of employees who back me up 100 percent and it's because of them, my team to whom I attribute this award, that I'm standing here tonight. I'm also encouraged by the amount of support that I've seen here tonight from all the people. All the tables are full," added Jones.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: 235-5131

WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2017 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2017 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Rota, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

For Saipan, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

For Tinian, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repoodil yóómw 2017 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráágh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli falúw kka: Luuta, Seipél, me Tchiliyól. E lo llól repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlúmi.

Emmwel ubwe suughi website ikka e amwirimwiritiw ubwe amwuri meta kka e nngaw iye e lo llól yóómw schaal llól ráághil 2017 me ubwe metaff reel schaal iye ughal úlúmi.

Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

Ngáli Seipél, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

Ngáre u mwuschel rebwe seleti repood yeel, ngáre u tipáli ubwe kkapas ngáli escháy reel repood yeel, ngáre u mwuschel pappid yeel ngáre rebwe email-li ló ngálugh, faingi ló CUC me (670) 664-4282.

RIPOT KUÅLIDÅT HÅNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na Ripot nu i Kuålidåt Hånom i CUC managuahayi på´gu giya on-line! På´gu na såkkan, in na´guahayi siparåo na ripot para kada´isla: Luta, Saipan, yan Tinian. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottånti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuålidåt put i Hånom ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinattiyi na web sites para un atan håfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda´ gi hålum i hånom-mu gi durántin 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na såkkan para un ke´tungu´ más put i hånom ni un gigimin.

Para Luta, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

Para Saipan, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

Para Tinian, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

Kumu un nisisita i ripot para u matranslåda, ya malagu´ håo kumuentusi håyi put i ripot pat malagu´ håo kopian påppit u ma´entrega pat ma-email guatu para hågu, put fabot hågan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB-DPW/SWMD-107-(A-B)-CIF ROTA

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 13, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "I" SPORTS UTITLITY VEHICLE, FIVE-PASSENGER, FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION (ROTA BRANCH)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Shi Feng
PMB 1821 Box 10002
Saipan, MP 96950
1 670-588-2778

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Scott Shi Shi Feng, Plaintiff
vs.
Zheng Ying, Defendant

FCD PA CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0211

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Shi Feng, whose mailing address is PMB 1821 Box 10002 Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for the relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2018.

/s/
Clerk of Court
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

VEHICLE FOR BID
"SOLD AS IS"

BEST OFFER

2006 Mazda MPV Van

Last day for bidding is June 30, 2018 at 3:00PM. For more information, please call Loan Department at 235-6260 ext. 122 or 123. The Bank reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

Bank of Saipan

Marianas Pride

AFTER NEARLY 4 MONTHS

Guma Hustisia remains closed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Guma Hustisia building in Susupe remains closed to the public since it shuttered last March 16 in the wake of air-conditioning system problems and mold infestation.

Despite this, the Judiciary assured that it is making every effort to "continue court services in an efficient, professional, and courteous manner."

In a notice Monday, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja did not say as to when the building will finally reopen to the public, but said that three transaction windows have been built on the side of the building's main entrance.

Effective yesterday, the Judiciary's accounting service unit/cashier, Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court, and Law Revision Commission will serve the public at these transaction windows.

Accounting Service Unit/cashier is at Window 1, while the Commonwealth Recorder's Office and the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court are at Window 2. The Law Revision Commission is at Window 3.

The public will be able to complete payments, process filings, obtain police clearances, and have access to other services at the walk-up transaction windows.

» Judiciary installs 3 transaction windows

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable and appropriate accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities with the assistance of the Marshals Service Division.

Court hearings will be held at the U.S. District Court for the NMI in Garapan and at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The Drug Court Division and Family Court Division will be at the Department of Public Safety Training Office in Susupe.

The court houses on Tinian and Rota will continue with regular business hours.

The 22-year-old main air-conditioning system at the Guma Hustisia has already been temporarily fixed more than a month ago, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

As the repair is only temporary, the system can break anytime again, sources said.

Some court employees have already been working inside the courthouse.

The Judiciary needs an estimated $7 million to replace the main air-conditioning system and for mold remediation.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres recently signed into law a bill that appropriates $15 million to several government programs and departments. Of the amount, $7 million is allocated to the Judiciary for the procurement of a new air-conditioning system and for mold remediation.

Last April 18, CNMI Judiciary director of courts Sonia A. Camacho stated that their goal is to reopen the building at the earliest time possible.

Camacho disclosed that the current estimated budget is $4.4 million to replace the air-conditioning system and $2.6 million for mold remediation.

Camacho said the main air-conditioning system is over 22 years old.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-011

GUALO RAI WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Gualo Rai Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; installation of gate valve assembly, PRV and PSV, flush hydrants, air release valves, fire hydrant assembly; existing lateral service tap relocation; restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-011, Gualo Rai Water Line Replacement Project",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 10, 2018,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 25, 2018** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater Associate Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-018

ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and leak repair on various types of waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **July 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-018: Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 5, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Procurement & Supply

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-024

REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINE # 8 AND # 4 FRAME, BLOCK & ALTERNATOR PARTS AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the removal and relocation of Engine 8 and Engine No. 4 frame, block & alternator parts at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition they will also be required to remove the coils from the stators and store them in a designated place. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the CUC plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration.

As this is a re-bid, a Pre-Bid Conference is not considered necessary; CUC will allow Site Visit based on pre-scheduled arrangements with CUC through email. Prospective Bidders who had not participated in the previous bid (CUC-IFB-18-020) are encouraged to visit the site for familiarizing the site conditions.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-024: Removal and relocation of engines 8 and 4 at Power Plant No. 1"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 27, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are however expected to have experience and the required skill sets in similar work.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A collision of values: Does Harvard cheat Asian-American applicants?

To students vying for a spot at an elite university, there is little as mysterious or unpredictable as the admissions process. How much, or how little, weight college officials give to factors including a student's race, income, test scores or extracurriculars is a closely guarded secret sauce at selective schools.

Grades and teacher evaluations count, but students also seek to create compellingly hilarious, or inspiring, or zany, or erudite essays or videos, and to impress in personal interviews. But what happens when Candidate A, who is admitted, rates virtually identical on paper and in person to Candidate B, who is not admitted?

Answer: a lawsuit.

Since 2014, Harvard has been battling a legal claim that the school systematically discriminates against many Asian-American candidates. The suit, filed by a group called Students for Fair Admissions, says Harvard artificially limits the number of Asian-Americans accepted—imposing a so-called soft quota. The alleged result: Less-qualified white, black and Hispanic candidates gain admission over better-qualified applicants of Asian descent.

In a batch of recently unsealed papers, the plaintiffs' group says its analysis shows that Asian-Americans rated higher than any other racial or ethnic group on admissions measures such as test scores, grades and extracurricular activities, The New York Times reports. But they were ranked lower on personal traits: "positive personality," likability, courage, kindness and being "widely respected." Those lower ratings cut their chances of admission.

Harvard defends its admissions process, calling such allegations misleading and inaccurate, in part because they underplay critical factors such as personal essays or teacher recommendations. The university argues that it has significantly increased Asian-American acceptances in the last decade, although the overall percentage of Asian-American students has stayed fairly steady. The admitted class of 2021 is 22.2 percent Asian-American, the school reports.

Reality: There is no such thing as a completely objective admissions process. Students are selected on the basis of criteria created by human beings, whose innate and sometimes intentional biases can affect their evaluations. Not everyone with top grades or a long resume of extracurriculars gets into his or her first choice. There will always be students aggrieved by rejection, whether from Harvard or some other school.

Every university, private and public, grapples with a collision of values as it fills its classes. One value is equal opportunity. The schools say they aspire to give every candidate a fair shake, not just based on grades and scores, but on character and other intangibles. That's fine, provided the last Asian-American candidate is judged exactly the same as the first. Limiting any group's size would mean the school in effect has unfairly downgraded some applicants before opening their applications.

But another value is in play. Schools seek to create a diverse student body. They want the freedom to accept candidates

See COLLISION on Next Page

©2018 Mike Sheltonn cartoons.com
Check out Melania's tasteless outfit!
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TRUMP IS HITLER
F** Nazi TRUMP!
TRUMP Making AMERIKA The THIRD REICH AGAIN!

Evangelical leaders were too silent for too long

By CARL HIAASEN
Miami Herald

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: The Miami Herald, 3511 N.W. 91 Avenue, Doral, Fla. 33172; email: chiaasen@miamiherald.com.

It feels surreal, as our country approaches the 242nd anniversary of its freedom, to be celebrating the fact that our government is no longer pulling crying toddlers and infants away from their parents along the southern border.

Equally strange has been the sluggish response of some evangelical leaders, whose notion of biblical mercy is one that shines less brightly on immigrants. The Rev. Franklin Graham, for example, only last week acknowledged that the U.S. policy of separating migrant families was "disgraceful."

That word should have thundered two months ago from his pulpit. And other words, too: heartbreaking, inhumane, cold-blooded, shameful, un-Christian, un-American, immoral, indefensible.

All the same things we've heard from people of all faiths who don't claim to be on God's personal speed dial, yet who have no difficulty recognizing cruelty when they see it.

Even when he finally spoke out against the separating of migrant families, Graham refused to blame the president. "This is not the administration's fault. I don't point the finger at Trump," said the son of the late, iconic Billy Graham.

He then shrunk behind the same outlandish lie that President Trump's allies had been using to defend what was happening: Immigration law requires border officers to yank some kids away from their parents. It's all the fault of Congress!

Not even the White House, which solely made the decision to warehouse more migrant children, successfully adhered to that narrative. In fact, Trump's flailing team changed its story more than a dozen times.

In the beginning, the aggressive push to split up families at the border was described as a new Justice Department policy. Then, on June 18, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said No, it wasn't a new policy. A day later, Marc Short, another Trump official, said, Yes, it was.

Nielsen had also asserted it was "offensive" to suggest that taking children from their parents was intended to deter illegal immigrants from coming. Within hours, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said exactly the opposite to Fox News.

Trump, Sessions and Nielsen all spouted the line that forced separation was required by flawed legislation and that Congress must act to fix it. Then the dependably muddled Kellyanne Conway told CNN that nobody ever claimed the law imposed mandatory separation of children from their mothers and fathers.

The dizzying whirl of contradictions culminated with a memorable flip-flop by Trump himself. Five days after telling reporters that the family-separation policy couldn't legally be rescinded by an executive order, he sat down and signed one.

"I didn't like the sight or the feeling of families being separated," he explained.

Yeah, it's a total bummer, seeing all those kids fenced in. Frightened. Confused. Tears in their little eyes.

But what had Trump imagined such scenes would look like and feel like back when he approved the plan? How did he not foresee a national outcry?

It wasn't the president's tender conscience that made him back down, but rather the strong reaction from his own family, worried Republican lawmakers and high-profile preachers including—belatedly—Franklin Graham.

As ideologically fractured as our country is, there remains a core decency that transcends politics and religious doctrine. It has been animated by compassion for children in distress, and also profound sympathy for any parent forced to watch a son or daughter taken away.

The administration limited media access to the camps and compounds, because the White House understood that the optics were "horrible," in the words of Robert Jeffress, a popular Baptist pastor and avid Trump booster.

And, sure enough, it didn't take much to horrify a majority of the public. Aerial shots gave the impression of prison flyovers, and an audio recording of crying children at a detention center went viral.

Yes, fix the immigration laws. Improve border security. But, as moral common ground, can we at least agree not to lock up innocent kids as a political strategy?

Trump's executive order temporarily halted most family separations at the border, but it did nothing to help more than 2,300 children who've been taken from their loved ones and remain incarcerated.

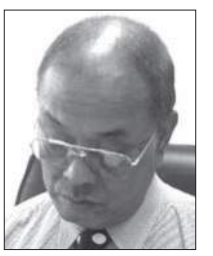
The TV prayers and professed dismay of pastors Graham and Jeffress are a weak substitute for action. They should use their political friendship with Trump to help expedite reuniting all these youngsters and families as quickly as possible.

True evangelicals try to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, a man who would be sickened by what's happened here, and would never have waited so long to speak up.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Katma yan silensiu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune*.*

Megai rumepara na mampus silensiu i tanu` pot `nos kuantus semana. Mañaga i tautau gi gima` niha gi minachum atdau. Kau pot hinalum tiempun maipe? Huñgan, inipus silensiu yan katma na esta na`tañga!

Hu ekuñgug ñaihon i metgut na intuision-hu (intuition) para bai li`e haf` guaha. Lau ni este inipus silensiu. Sen ti anog haf` na fina` mañglu` gaige gi oriya. Ha estotbayu` pot un` señat na gai tinatte seriosu, dispues.

I uttimu biahe `nai hafatoigue-yu` tirun silensiu gi 1995. Ha pañgunyu` `nai muma`lag i buttun Santa Maria gi halum kuattun mame. Kumahulu` dididi` dispues numa`lu tatte gi sagaña gi regulat na attura. Ayu na oga`an linau na dañkulu iya Kobe giya Japon `nai lamegai man-dimalas.

Poresu na este i modun silensiu gi oriya ti mattu ha` pot tinilaikan klima. Ginen hilu` este na señat para tafan le`an haf` manmasusesede. Tafan man-gagau ayudu gi Saina na una` fan libre hit ginen haf` na destrosiun ira.

Silensiu: Gi halum redondun politika komprendiyun i na`tañga na silensiu. I republican makat ha defende hatsadan suetdoña 80 pot sientu. I otru banda pa`gu ha areregla halum gima`ña antes de u huyuñg bumuruka publikamente.

Diberas makat kumandidatun republican. Haf` na trosun lamug matai bayena gaige gi tatalo`ña, era i hatsadan suetdu! In` ipus 14-mit na empleau pot betsan miyu?

Liñguahe: Agradesiyun animun PSS fumana`gue famaguon natibu ni hila` nanan niha. Guiya chumahlau ya ha repasa fotmat na modun konbetsasion yan finana`guen mañgi` gi finu` natibu, Chamorro yan Karolinas.

Este na finana`gue gai eskalera: konbetsasion yan matugi`. I tatatte `nai gaige mas fitme yan asegurau na modu gi ineyag liñguahe.

Professot liñguahe ginen enteru Pasifiku marekomenda finana`guen matugi` pot appruebau na este solu `nai siña i patgon mas ha gu`ot petmanente ineyag liñguahiña.

Motibu: I matugi` na materiat gai fotmalidat. Dispues, debi i titigi` u komprende i asuntu para u siña tumugi` gi klaru na presentasion.

Ti libianu mañgi`. `Nai hu tutuhun este na offisiu gi 1972 diberas manadan materiat hu chule` para bai taitai dopbladan presentasion siha. Kontodu lepblun kantan Guma` Yuus hu taitai. Hu hassu na i uttimu na finana`guen mañgi` letra i segundu gradu gi 1958. Ma-abandona dispues pot para tafan lagse` manfinu` Amerikanu! Dios mihu!

Haf` na peskan pueñge `nai kara ratu magtus i goman fisga. Lau ti sumeha-yu`! Hu hala halum pot presisu na bai tuñgu` finenina liñguahihu!

Kuttura: Hafaisen-yu` un` lahihu ñietu haf` sustansiaña manñgiñgi`. Hu esplika na finenina pot respetu gi man-amku` piot i mañaina. `Nai tumekun i patgon echa motmut bendision na u felis gi kareraña.

Mas ta pega sensian hinimiddi giya guiya ke kustumbren chiku. Estague` linie-hu gi ma`ug na mauleg na kustumbren tanu` gi ma-ñgiñgi`. Un` ma`gas na saludu para i man-amko`ta maseha ngai`an.

Bakasion: `Nai bakasion i eskuela mañaga i famaguon gi gima` niha. I sankattan na chalan gi gima` silensiu. Maliñgu burukan famaguon `an sige para iya siha.

Hombre guaha `nai hu ekuñgog `agañg chaleg niha pot manginen ayu hit na estau antes. Bos manhoben sige mangupu gi aire. Na`magof!

Man-malofan hit guihe na fina` kañada `nai ni futturu-ta taigue trabiha seriosamenten gi hinassota. Puru huegu umokukupa ha`anita yan mana` fonhayan tarehan guma`. Mampos silensiu mina` kulan mahalañgyu` ni burukan famaguon!

Usun Niyog: Animu tres ñietus man-afalu` yan niyog gi hegai. Humihut-yu` ya hu fanu`e taimanu mañgacha`. Machague ya mali`e na mas libianu. Mañaleg.

Dispues, man-mamaisen taimanu makamyu i niyog. Hu fanu`e finenina taimanu ma-ippe`ña dispues matachoñg-yu` gi kamyu ya hu fanu`e chechegueña. Siha dispues muna` fonhayan i tetehnan. Mauleg finanagueg-hu guihe na pupueñge. I niyog magahet na ha satba linala` natibu desde antigu na tiempu!

Adahe na manadan niyog hu kacha` yan kamyu para saibog choda, sune, kamute, dagu yan katdun guihan. Patte petmanente este na fina`pus gi linala` tautau isla!

Maliñgu: Pot dos besis antes huli`e komplimentu (magutus uttimu finihu`) un` pueñge antes de umakamu` (fandango) gi sigiente dia. Adumididi` mumaliñgu este na patte gi kustumbren umasagua guine. Kase i manadan gastu umutut sin ditension.

Kontodu fandañgo gi gima` mapega guatu gi hotel. Kase pot gastu lokue` este mina` mamueba petmanente. Magahet na apase, gupot, dispues hanau para i gima`. Ti un` fan nañga` grupun bulacheru gi tatten guma` `sino muna` gasgas. Ahe` ti pot miskinu lau makat na tiempu mañoda` monedan mantension familia!

■■■

Magahet na prontu setbisiun neñkanu` yan gimen gi hotel. Ti parehu yan fandañgon guma` ni debi ta asegura na masa i boka antes de u tutuhun umuñgag-gue` i kusuneru. Dispues, debi u guaha para manulaikan haf` hokog gi lamasa. Dios mihu!

The talk to have before college

By GRACE GEDYE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

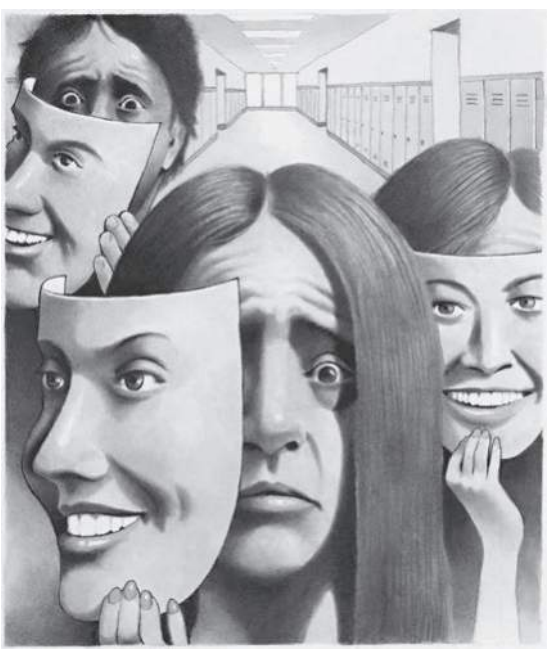
Before I went to college four years ago, my parents and I had a "work hard in class" talk and a "safe partying" talk. But we didn't discuss what to do if stress morphed into anxiety or depression. We should have.

Instead, that summer almost every conversation I had with an adult included some variation on: "These are going to be the best four years of your life." So I was prepped for highs. And when the lows hit, I thought I was alone.

I wasn't. The 2017 Healthy Minds Study—a survey of 50,000 students at 54 schools—found that 39 percent reported struggling with some mental health problem. The study, conducted by researchers based at the University of Michigan, also found that 14 percent had major depression, 10 percent suffered from severe anxiety and 11 percent had thought about suicide.

Perhaps this should not be a surprise. In 75 percent of lifetime mental health cases, the first onset was by age 24. Navigating mental health issues—your own or a friend's—is a pivotal college experience for many students, but isn't acknowledged as such. It certainly wasn't on my radar when I was 18. Now as a recent college grad, if there is one issue I hope parents, teachers and student counselors talk about with college-bound teenagers, it is mental health.

Absent some sort of foundational conversation, students can be apprehensive about opening up to their parents about depression or anxiety—or seeking the treatment they need. Even now, one of my close friends wants to start seeing a therapist, but she is covered by her parents' health insurance policy and worries what they will say when they see the bill. (Though rules vary by state, in California patients can request that insurers keep medical treatments confidential from policyholders.) Another friend who goes through periods of depression downplays the extent of it when talking to her mother. She worries her mom would freak out, especially because they are so far away from each other. It's understandable. For a 20-year-old, it's hard to appreciate how much lived experience your parents have, or to imagine that they probably faced or helped others through dark times.



At the same time, parents should know that many colleges are ill-equipped to meet students' mental health needs. Large campuses have, on average, one licensed mental health provider per 3,500 students, and 30 percent have no psychiatrist available on campus. A few years ago, my college's counseling center had five-week wait times for therapy intake appointments. The situation has since improved, though students still talk about the difficulty of getting appointments. A recent survey of 50 colleges found that at most campuses, students will wait 10 days to three weeks for an initial intake exam. To an adult, that may sound reasonable, but for college students without family or trusted friends nearby, a bad mood one day can turn desperate the next.

If parents start a conversation about mental health before college, some feelings of isolation might be headed off. Parents should explain that there will be ups and downs in the next four years. If they've ever experienced depression, anxiety or other mood disorders, this is a good time to share that, too. During college check-in calls, parents should also ask kids if they know about their college's counseling center, and if they are developing friendships.

It's not just parents who can initiate these discussions. High school teachers and counselors who are already talking about success in college should work in mental health. To this day, my high school friends and I reference a speech a beloved chemistry teacher gave at our senior breakfast about his experience with depression during college. It wasn't the pre-graduation pep talk we were expecting, but it was valuable to see that someone we knew and admired had gone through such a rough period and come out the other side.

Thankfully my own rough patch in college was relatively short-lived, and I was able to talk to my parents about it. But these conversations don't always come easily. The National Alliance on Mental Illness offers a guide for parents and students, but here's one place to start this crucial conversation: "30 percent of college students say that at some point in the last year they felt so down that it was difficult to function. Let's talk about what to do if that happens."

Grace Gedye, a recent graduate of Pomona College, is an editorial intern at Washington Monthly.

COLLISION

From Page 10

who bring something unique or otherwise compelling—even if that means rejecting applicants with better academic records.

We're not predicting how this will turn out. We admire both of those conflicting values. The plaintiffs will attempt to prove that Harvard has a racial quota system that cheats gifted Asian-Americans. Harvard will attempt to prove that its system is fair and legal. The outcome will have repercussions in college admission offices nationwide.

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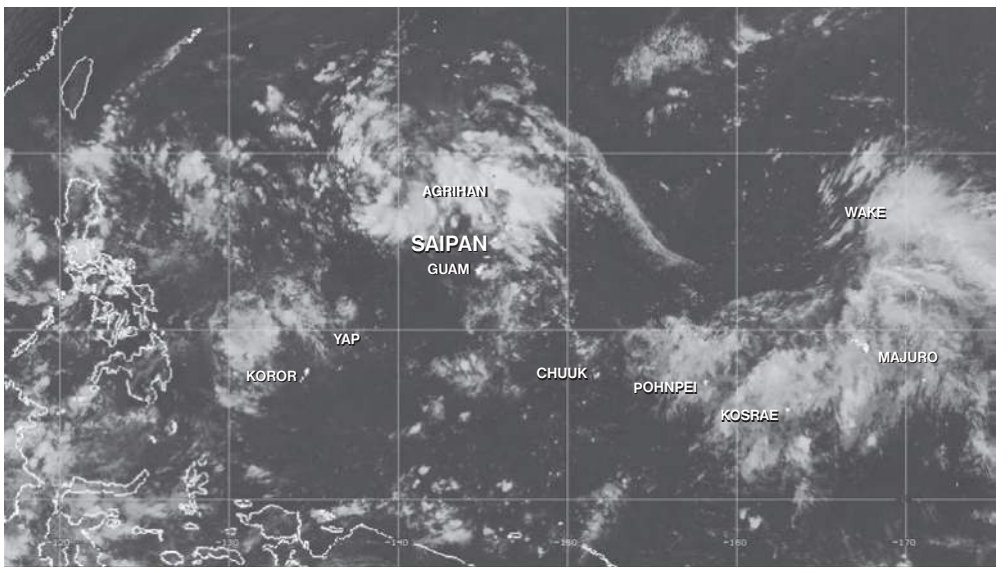
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Cloudy. Occasional showers in the morning, then scattered showers in the afternoon.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:39 AM, TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The scattered showers approaching the Marianas are due to a tropical disturbance. This afternoon, tonight and Wednesday should be noticeably rainier than previous days. However, rainfall totals should not be all that high. Once this disturbance passes, drier weather should come back for a few days anyway. It should then get more and more difficult to keep dry weather in here as wet season begins to crank up. Seas will build a foot or so, nothing truly significant though. Winds will also remain at or below 15 knots. Therefore, no weather related hazards other than lightning are being anticipated for the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 46°
Beijing	Sunny	97° / 72°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 74°
London	Sunny	82° / 57°
Los Angeles	Sunny	79° / 61°
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 46°
Miami	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
New York	Partly Cloudy	77° / 71°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Paris	Sunny	84° / 63°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	75° / 72°
Rome	Sunny	86° / 63°
Salem	Thunderstorm	92° / 74°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	61° / 54°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	82° / 72°
Tokyo	Windy	82° / 75°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	82° / 73°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:10 AM	LOW TIDE	1.17
6:06 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.87
1:36 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.25
8:37 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.79

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	4:50 AM	6:01 PM
Thursday	-	5:37 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	-	6:26 AM	7:39 PM
Saturday	-	7:15 AM	8:25 PM
Sunday	-	8:04 AM	9:09 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Domenech visits Pohnpei, Micronesia

POHNPEI, Micronesia— Doug Domenech, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs, ended last June 24 his official visit to Pohnpei, the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia, where he conferred with President Peter M. Christian on the continuation and strengthening of the U.S.-FSM relationship under the Compact of Free Association.

» Reaffirms US-FSM Compact partnership

While at the national government capital complex in Palikir, Domenech also met with FSM Congress Speaker Wesley Simina, vice speaker Esmond Moses, other senators and staff.

Accompanying Domenech were Nikolao Pula, director of the Office of Insular Affairs and chair of the Joint Economic Management Committee and OIA staff.

"On behalf of U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, I am here to celebrate the [United States'] longtime friendship with the people of the Federated States of Micronesia," said Domenech. "The U.S. and the FSM embarked on this journey together many years ago following World War II."

Since then, FSM has transitioned from trusteeship to self-governance in 1986, and will transition again in 2023 from direct grant funding assistance to trust fund distributions.

"The U.S. and FSM will continue to work toward mutual goals under the Compact of Free Association to promote economic advancement, budgetary self-reliance, and economic self-sufficiency," Domenech said.

Before beginning site visits and other meetings throughout the island, Domenech paid a courtesy call on Pohnpei State Gov. Marcelo Peterson, Lt. Gov. Oliver Reed, and key staff. He toured a Compact-funded building at Nett Elementary School with Pohnpei state director of Education Churchill Edward and vice principal Maxson Mallarme. Domenech appreciated the strong support of the Parent Teacher Association at Nett Elementary School as a model for schools on Pohnpei.

FSM President Peter Christian presents Doug Domenech, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs, with coconut sennit used traditionally in Micronesia for building and lashing outriggers to canoes. A. KIM/U.S. EMBASSY

Nan Douwas site, Nan Madol ruins, UNESCO World Heritage Site. A. KIM/U.S. EMBASSY

Domenech also toured the Nanpohnnmal power plant and met with Nixon Anson Pohnpei Utilities Corp. general manager and staff regarding the current problems on-island with power generation and the need for maintenance funding.

He visited the International Organization for Migration to learn more about emergency disaster assistance in Pohnpei and the FSM, and the Micronesia Registration Advisors on the FSM captive insurance domicile.

Domenech took a boat ride through the Sokehs *Dau* mangrove channel with Willy Kostka of Micronesia Conservation Trust and other natural resource conservation leaders to learn about mangrove ecosystems and their vital role in food security and protection from storms.

Domenech visited the Nan Madol ruins, guided by FSM and Pohnpei State Historic Preservation officers Gus Kohler and Jason Lebehn, following which he drove through the former campus of the Pohnpei Agricultural and Trade School and went to the Kepirohi waterfall.

FSM vice president Yosiwo George joined Domenech for a special event announcing $241,675 in grant funding to non-profit organization Habele, extending a Yap robotics program to select schools in Pohnpei and Chuuk for 2018-2019. FSM Sens. Isaac Figir and Joseph Urusemal, former president of the Federated States of Micronesia, were also in attendance.

From left, Doug Domenech; FSM Speaker of Congress Wesley Simina; and U.S. Ambassador Robert Riley. A. KIM/U.S. EMBASSY

Nett Elementary School vice principal Maxson Mallarme; Pohnpei state director of Education; DCM U.S. Embassy Ted Pierce; Assistant Secretary Domenech; OIA director Nik Pula; and Nett Elementary School staff. Here, Domenech and team are presented with baskets of Pohnpeian local food in the tradition of lapw kopwou, the Pohnpeian tradition of presenting food to visitors. A. KIM/U.S. EMBASSY

Assistant Secretary Domenech; Pohnpei Utilities Corp. manager Nixon Anson; OIA director Nikolao Pula at the Nanpohnmal Power Plant. A. KIM/U.S. EMBASSY

"[Domenech] and I want to ensure that the U.S.-FSM relationship is relevant," said Pula. "We concur with President Christian that, together, we should make the necessary mutual adjustments as we move toward the 2023 transition and continue strengthening our relationship."

Domenech and his team, including U.S. Ambassador Robert Riley, concluded the visit to Pohnpei with a traditional *sakau* ceremony hosted by FSM President Peter Christian and several members of his Cabinet, including Foreign Minister Lorin Robert and chief of staff Leo Falcam FSM's members of the Joint Economic Management Committee, also known as JEMCO.

Since implementation of the Compact of Free Association in 1986, the United States has provided over $2.5 billion to FSM.

This U.S. investment under the Compact, in addition to numerous other federal programs, has improved schools and hospitals, supported historic preservation programs, built roads, secured airports, monitored and documented weather patterns, immunized children, opened doors to higher education, provided postal services, and provided salaries in critical sectors of education and health services.

U.S. government support has helped lay the foundation for a stable government, where democratic principles and the rule of law thrive, adding a measure of economic security to the islands in the FSM. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting on July 5

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have a general membership meeting on July 5, a Thursday, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Guest speakers will be Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, who will share some important updates, and Arielle Buyum, executive director of Latte Training Academy, who will provide updates on the classes held through the CW program funding. Lunch will begin at 11:30am and the meeting will follow promptly at 12pm. Reservations will be accepted only for parties of four or more. Contact Chamber administrator Mercilynn Palec at administrator@saipanchamber.com or 234-7150. ***(PR)***

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 student orientations:

- Aug. 9, 9am-12pm: Incoming freshmen & new transfer students; school gym
- Aug. 10, 9am-12pm: Sophomores; school gym
- Aug. 13, 9am-12pm: Juniors; school gym
- Aug. 14, 9am-12pm: Seniors; school gym

MHS students can now register for their courses by visiting our school website at marianashighschool.com or logging in directly to https://goo.gl/forms/bJKezkcxaGos9WVx2. ***(PR)***

Power and water interruptions

There will be a scheduled power interruption on June 28 and June 30 and a water service interruption on June 28.

The power outage on Thursday, June 28, will occur from 9am to 1pm at the Wireless Ridge. It will affect Chanal Savana. No water well or wastewater lift station will be affected. Two power poles will be replaced.

On Saturday, June 30, the power outage from 5am to 10am will occur in Puerto Rico, affecting Sadog Tasi and first partial of Puerto Rico. The Sadog Tasi Treatment Plant will be affected but not water wells. Four power poles will be replaced.

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Thursday, June 28, from 8am to 5pm affecting CUC's water customers in As Terlaje, Beach Road, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai, Kannat Tabla, Chalan Kiya, Rasmu Lane (El Toro), Chalan Tun Antonio Apa, and west side areas of As Lito (Faha Place, Bayak Drive and Aplok Drive).

CUC's contractor, AIC Marianas, Inc., will be cutting and capping the existing 14-inch transmission line connection to the Kannat Tabla tank and replacing the existing 8-inch valve along the intersection of Kannat Tabla and Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road fronting Mechille Corp. As a result of the new installation, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community. Regular water service hours will resume thereafter. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

MVA gets consecutive clean audits

The Marianas Visitors Authority has completed its independent audit report for fiscal year 2017, receiving an unqualified opinion with no reportable conditions in internal control identified.

Since it began conducting internal independent audits, the MVA has received a clean audit each time with no findings in the inspection of its financial statements to test internal control and compliance with Government Auditing Standards.

Auditing firm Burger Commer Magliari CPA found no reportable conditions in internal control over financial reporting and no instance of noncompliance considered material to the financial statements.

"We are very pleased to continue the MVA's longstanding track record of clean audits with this latest review, which provides an assurance to the public that the MVA is managing its budget in compliance with all relevant accounting rules and regulations. As an autonomous CNMI government agency, we're proud of this accomplishment," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "In addition, a vast majority of our budget goes toward marketing and promotions and improving the destination, and much less to personnel and operating expenses. We remain committed to using these public funds effectively and efficiently to sustain and grow the Marianas tourism economy."

As of the date of the audit report, the MVA is also current in its financial obligations with both offshore and local vendors. The MVA had no findings in fiscal years 2017 and 2016, according to the report. ***(MVA)***

Business

Medical milestone: US OKs marijuana-based drug for seizures

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. health regulators on Monday approved the first prescription drug made from marijuana, a milestone that could spur more research into a drug that remains illegal under federal law, despite growing legalization for recreational and medical use.

The Food and Drug Administration approved the medication, called Epidiolex, to treat two rare forms of epilepsy in patients 2 years and older. But it's not quite medical marijuana.

The strawberry-flavored syrup is a purified form of a chemical ingredient found in the cannabis plant — but not the one that gets users high. It's not yet clear why the ingredient, called cannabidiol, or CBD, reduces seizures in some people with epilepsy.

British drugmaker GW Pharmaceuticals studied the drug in more than 500 children and adults with hard-to-treat seizures, overcoming numerous legal hurdles that have long stymied research into cannabis.

FDA officials said the drug reduced seizures when combined with older epilepsy drugs. FDA chief Scott Gottlieb said his agency had supported research on cannabis-derived products "for many years."

"This approval serves as a reminder that sound development programs that properly evaluate active ingredients contained in marijuana can lead to important medical therapies," Gottlieb told reporters.

AP
This May 23, 2017 file photo shows GW Pharmaceuticals' Epidiolex, a medicine made from the marijuana plant but without THC.

The FDA has previously approved synthetic versions of another cannabis ingredient for medical use, including severe weight loss in patients with HIV.

Epidiolex is essentially a pharmaceutical-grade version CBD oil, which some parents already use to treat children with epilepsy. CBD is one of more than 100 chemicals found in marijuana. It doesn't contain THC, the ingredient that gives marijuana its mind-altering effect.

Physicians say it's important to have a consistent, government-regulated version.

"I'm really happy we have a product that will be much cleaner and one that I know what it is," said Dr. Ellaine Wirrell, director of the Mayo Clinic's program for childhood epilepsy. "In the artisanal products there's often a huge variation in doses from bottle to bottle depending on where you get it."

Side effects with the drug include diarrhea, vomiting, fatigue and sleep problems.

Several years ago, Allison Hendershot considered relocating her family to Colorado, one of the first states to legalize marijuana and home to a large network of CBD producers and providers. Her 13-year-old daughter, Molly, has suffered from severe seizures since she was 4 months old. But then Hendershot learned about a trial of Epidiolex at New York University.

"I preferred this to some of those other options because it's is a commercial product that has gone through rigorous testing," said Hendershot, who lives in Rochester, New York.

Since receiving Epidiolex, Hendershot says her daughter has been able to concentrate more and has had fewer "drop" seizures — in which her entire body goes limp and collapses.

CBD oil is currently sold online and in specialty shops across the U.S., though its legal status remains murky. Most producers say their oil is made from hemp, a plant in the cannabis family that contains little THC and can be legally farmed in a number of states for clothing, food and other uses.

The immediate impact of Monday's approval on these products is unclear.

FDA's Gottlieb warned about the use of CBD products with "unproven medical claims."

"The promotion and use of these unapproved products may keep some patients from accessing appropriate, recognized therapies to treat serious and even fatal diseases," Gottlieb said.

The FDA previously issued warnings to CBD producers that claimed their products could treat specific diseases, such as cancer or Alzheimer's. Only products that have received formal FDA approval can make such claims, typically requiring clinical trials costing millions.

Most CBD producers sidestep the issue by making only broad claims about general health and well-being.

Industry supporters downplayed the impact of the FDA approval.

"I don't know a mom or dad in their right mind who is going to change what's already working," said Heather Jackson, CEO of Realm of Caring, a charitable group that supports access to CBD. "I really don't think it's going to affect us much."

China, EU to form group to modernize global trade rules

BEIJING (AP)—China and the European Union agreed Monday to launch a group that will work to update global trade rules to address technology policy, subsidies and other emerging irritants and preserve support for international trade amid U.S. threats of import controls.

Actions such as U.S. President Donald Trump's unilateral tariff hikes in a technology dispute with Beijing show World Trade Organization rules need to keep pace with changes in business, said an EU vice president, Jyrki Katainen.

Katainen said Europe was not siding with Beijing in its dispute with Trump but was taking action to protect the global system of regulating free trade. He said the EU wants other governments to join the WTO group.

Companies worry the U.S.-Chinese dispute could chill global trade and economic growth if other governments respond by raising their own import barriers. Even before Trump took office, economists were warning countries were tightening import restrictions and taking steps to favor their companies over foreign rivals.

U.S. officials complain the WTO, the Geneva-based arbiter of trade rules, requires an overhaul because it is bureaucratic, rigid and slow to adapt to changing business conditions.

Katainen said Europe wants to focus on issues including subsidies to industry, government pressure on foreign companies to hand over technology and the status of state-owned industry—all areas in which Beijing faces complaints by Trump as well as other trading partners.

"I don't expect these negotiations to be easy," Katainen said at a news conference. But if nothing is done, "the environment for multilateral trade will vanish."

Scott Kennedy, who studies the Chinese economy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, said the EU-China arrangement is "a huge deal" and risks leaving the United States isolated.

"It is not in the interests of the United States to just be playing defense and creating a fortress America while the EU, China and others play offense and attempt to set the rules of the game for the next century," he said.

Trump has threatened to impose tariffs of 10 percent to 25 percent on up to $450 billion of Chinese goods. Beijing responded to Washington's first round of hikes on $34 billion of imports by raising duties on U.S. soybeans, whiskey and other products.

Other governments have similar complaints but Trump has been more direct about challenging Beijing and threatening to disrupt exports.

Beijing might agree to talks to deflect further sanctions but is unlikely to agree to changes that hamper its technology plans, said Mark Williams of Capital Economics.

"I very much doubt they would agree to anything that would have teeth and punish them," said Williams. Policies companies object to are "integral to the growth model China is pursuing," he said.

US judge throws out climate change lawsuits against big oil

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A U.S. judge who held a hearing about climate change that received widespread attention ruled Monday that Congress and the president were best suited to address the contribution of fossil fuels to global warming, throwing out lawsuits that sought to hold big oil companies liable for the Earth's changing environment.

Noting that the world has also benefited significantly from oil and other fossil fuel, Judge William Alsup said questions about how to balance the "worldwide positives of the energy" against its role in global warming "demand the expertise of our environmental agencies, our diplomats, our Executive, and at least the Senate."

"The problem deserves a solution on a more vast scale than can be supplied by a district judge or jury in a public nuisance case," he said.

Alsup's ruling came in lawsuits brought by San Francisco and neighboring Oakland that accused Chevron, Exxon Mobil, ConocoPhillips, BP and Royal Dutch Shell of long knowing that fossil fuels posed serious risks to the environment, but still promoting them as environmentally responsible.

The lawsuits said the companies created a public nuisance and should pay for sea walls and other infrastructure to protect against the effects of climate change—construction that could cost billions of dollars.

The Oakland city attorney's offices did not immediately have comment. John Cote, a spokesman for the San Francisco city attorney's office, said the office was reviewing the ruling and would decide its next steps "shortly," but the lawsuit had "forced a public court proceeding on climate science."

"We're pleased that the court recognized that the science of global warming is no longer in dispute," he said.

New York City, several California counties and at least one other California city filed similar suits.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
24,252.80	2,717.07	7,532.01
−328.09	−37.81	−160.81
−1.33%	−1.37%	−2.09%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3484	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8475	Russian Ruble	62.7356
British Pound	0.7526	Indian Rupee	68.2991	Singapore Dollar	1.3593
Canadian Dollar	1.3282	Japanese Yen	109.5670	South Korean Won	1092.02
Chinese Yuan	6.4505	Malaysian Ringgit	3.9765	Swiss Franc	0.9860
Euro	0.8532	New Zealand Dollar	1.4493	Taiwan Dollar	29.8640
		Philippine Peso	52.3546	Thailand Baht	32.9175

Nation

Pharmacist denies woman miscarriage drug on moral grounds

AP
Nicole Arteaga tells her story about how a Walgreens pharmacist allegedly denied her prescription because it was against his ethics, during an interview from inside her home in Peoria, Ariz., Saturday, June 23, 2018.

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP)—The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy will investigate the complaint of a woman who says a Walgreens pharmacist refused to give her medication necessary to end her pregnancy after her baby stopped developing.

The woman, who the Arizona Republic identified as Nicole Arteaga, described in a viral Facebook post how she was publicly humiliated when attempting to fill the prescription to end her pregnancy—a pregnancy she wanted, but needed to terminate because she would ultimately miscarry. She says the pharmacist refused to fill the prescription with other customers within earshot and she left the location in tears with her 7-year-old child by her side.

Arteaga was able to fill her prescription at a different location later, and filed a complaint with the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy.

Kam Gandhi, executive director at the board, said that the agency hasn't talked to Arteaga or the pharmacist yet, but will aim to do a full investigation before the board's next meeting in August, Gandhi said.

"Obviously it's a sensitive matter, and we have to approach it delicately," he said. "If we get everything in order, we'll present it at the August meeting."

Arizona is one of six states that permit pharmacists to refuse to fill prescriptions on moral or religious grounds without requiring a referral or transfer of the prescription, according to the National Women's Law Center. The law specifically mentions abortion medication or emergency contraception, and says medical professionals like pharmacists must state their objection in writing.

Gandhi said that part of the law hasn't been interpreted by the board before.

"Does it have to be presented to the patient, does it have to be at the store, or does it have to be in the pharmacist's personnel file?" he said. "That's what's up in the air."

Once the investigation is presented to the board, it can determine whether to dismiss the complaint or take further action. That could include a type of warning letter, civil penalties, a voluntary surrender of license or continued education, Gandhi said.

Arteaga also said she had contacted Walgreens' corporate office. On Monday, the company was tweeting replies to individuals who were outraged by Arteaga's post.

Some customers said they were taking their prescription business elsewhere. Walgreens pushed out multiple repeated responses. In one, the company said it apologized to the patient about how the situation was handled. It also said it was looking into the matter further, while another message explained store policies.

"Our policy allows pharmacists to step away from filling a prescription for which they have a moral objection," the tweet read. "At the same time, they are also required to refer the prescription to another pharmacist or manager on duty to meet the patient's needs in a timely manner."

The company told The Associated Press on Monday that the pharmacist in question was the only one on duty at the time, so he called another location to serve the patient.

Tempers raised by immigration issue give way to insults

NEW YORK (AP)—Political rancor over immigration has boiled over into increasingly personal insults, as President Donald Trump took a harsh shot at a prominent congresswoman's intellect and Democrats worried that some of their own anti-Trump rhetoric might play into his hands and backfire in November.

With language reaching belligerent levels seldom heard since the 2016 campaign, Republican tactics seemed aimed at least in part at activating loyal supporters for the midterm elections.

The issue of what passes for political civility in 2018 has been eagerly stoked by Trump, who has embraced the cultural battles playing out everywhere from restaurant tables to football fields to late-night comedy. And the ejection of White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders and her family from a Virginia restaurant over the weekend symbolizes the public anger that has tied Democrats in knots, leaving them torn as to how to respond to a president who defies the norms of his office.

Trump punched back sharply Monday after Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters of California told a crowd in her state over the weekend that "If you see anybody from that Cabinet in a restaurant, in a department store, at a gasoline station, you get out and you create a crowd, and you push back on them!"

Trump, always eager for a foil, tweeted in retort: "Congresswoman Maxine Waters, an extraordinarily low IQ person, has become, together with Nancy Pelosi, the Face of the Democrat Party. She has just called for harm to supporters, of which there are many, of the Make America Great Again movement. Be careful what you wish for Max!"

Other Democrats quickly distanced themselves from Waters' call to action, suggesting it could endanger Democrats' chances in the midterms that could determine the next chapter of Trump's presidency.

"In the crucial months ahead, we must strive to make America beautiful again," tweeted Pelosi, the House minority leader. "Trump's daily lack of civility has provoked responses that are predictable but unacceptable. As we go forward, we must conduct elections in a way that achieves unity from sea to shining sea."

Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said Monday from the Senate floor that "the best solution is to win elections. That is a far more productive way to channel the legitimate frustrations with this president's policies than with harassing members of his administration."

Trump welcomes the fight, from the depiction of his supporters in the short-lived "Roseanne" revival to NFL players kneeling for the national anthem, believing that us-versus-them partisan issues fire up his base of supporters. With the Russia investigation swirling and Republicans facing an uncertain fate in November, he has further abandoned any unifying powers of his office, leaning hard into partisan warfare while adopting an aggrieved stance to dish out attacks that dominate the news and distract from scandals.

And while his rough rhetoric since his campaign has given license for some of his followers to engage in inflammatory acts, the anger on the left has sparked its own set of unruly images, further amplifying the political divisions in the nation's civility war.

Trump trash-talks restaurant that booted his press secretary

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump on Monday trash-talked a Virginia restaurant that asked his press secretary, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, to leave because she worked for his administration.

In a tweet, Trump said that The Red Hen restaurant in Lexington, Virginia, "should focus more on cleaning its filthy canopies, doors and windows (badly needs a paint job) rather than refusing to serve a fine person like Sarah Huckabee Sanders."

"I always had a rule, if a restaurant is dirty on the outside, it is dirty on the inside!" added Trump, an admitted germophobe, who has said he prefers eating at fast food chains rather than independent eateries because he trusts them more.

Photographs of the restaurant, a three-hour drive from Washington, appear to show no evidence of serious disrepair to the red building with hunter green awnings and white doors and trim, though recent images show some awning wear.

The restaurant's most recent health inspection, reported by the local news site Patch and available online, includes no record of violations. Inspectors noted "good food/unit temperatures," said staff had clean uniforms and aprons, and observed "excellent job on code-dating."

Sanders tweeted over the weekend that she was asked to leave the restaurant by its owner Friday evening because she worked for Trump's Republican administration. Sanders said that she "politely left" and that the owner's "actions say far more about her than about me."

"Healthy debate on ideas and political philosophy is important," she told reporters at a White House briefing. "But the calls for harassment and push for any Trump supporter to avoid the public is unacceptable."

The restaurant's co-owner, Stephanie Wilkinson, did not immediately respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press on Monday, but she told The Washington Post that her reasons for booting Sanders included the concerns of employees who were gay and knew Sanders had defended Trump's desire to bar transgender people from serving in the military.

Several other Trump administration officials, including Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, have been confronted in public in recent days amid intense fury over an administration policy that led to an increase in the number of migrant children being separated from their parents after crossing the border illegally.

Nielsen cut short a working dinner at a Mexican restaurant last week after protesters shouted, "Shame!" until she left. Trump policy adviser Stephen Miller was accosted by someone at a different Mexican restaurant who called him "a fascist," according to the New York Post.

The displays of hostility have set off a fierce debate about whether politics should play a role in how administration officials are treated in public, with Sanders' father, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, denouncing his daughter's treatment as "bigotry."

Sarah Huckabee Sanders added: "We are allowed to disagree, but we should be able to do so freely and without fear of harm. And this goes for all people regardless of politics."

Asia

PH president slammed for calling God 'stupid'

AP
In this Tuesday, June 11, 2018, file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures while addressing the crowd at the 120th Philippine Independence Day celebrations south of Manila, Philippines.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president, notorious for having cursed the pope and world leaders like former U.S. President Barack Obama, has sparked new outrage by calling God "stupid" in Asia's largest Catholic country.

Opposition Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV shot back Monday by describing President Rodrigo Duterte as "one evil man" and his remarks as "very much consistent with the deceitfulness, heartlessness and ruthlessness of his policies." Even some of Duterte's political allies were critical.

A Catholic Bishop, Arturo Bastes, called the president a "madman" and urged Filipinos to pray for an end to Duterte's "blasphemous utterances and dictatorial tendencies."

"Duterte's tirade against God and the Bible reveals again that he is a psychological freak, a psychopath, an abnormal mind who should have not been elected as president of our civilized and Christian nation," Bastes said.

Another bishop, Ruperto Santos, said the president had crossed a line.

Duterte questioned in a televised speech Friday the Biblical story of man's creation and asked why God created Adam and Eve only to allow them to succumb to temptation that destroyed their purity.

"Who is this stupid God? This son of a bitch is then really stupid," said the 73-year-old leader, known for his rambling public statements. "How can you rationalize a God? Do you believe?"

Duterte lamented that Adam and Eve's sin in Christian theology resulted in all the faithful falling from divine grace. "You were not involved but now you're stained with an original sins ... What kind of a religion is that? That's what I can't accept, very stupid proposition," he said.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson, a former national police chief, said he has often backed Duterte's policies, but after the president's utterances against God "to whom I pray every single day and with whom I've found solace and comfort in all my difficult times, I don't even have to think of my choice."

"May my God forgive him and make him atone for all his sins," Lacson said.

Duterte's spokesman defended his remarks, saying the president has the right to express his opinion on religion and cited his previous disclosure that he was once sexually abused as a student by a priest.

Duterte stressed that right in another speech Monday. "Why do you bind me with something very stupid? I was given my own mind by God."

Duterte shocked Filipino Catholics in 2015 when he cursed visiting Pope Francis for having triggered a monstrous traffic in Manila. He later apologized, but has repeatedly lashed out at bishops and the dominant Catholic church, which has criticized his bloody crackdown on illegal drugs.

Obama, who also raised alarm over the drug killings under Duterte, was also a target of the Philippine leader's tongue-lashing. He once said the American leader should "to go to hell."

The former longtime city mayor has repeatedly declared he does not care about human rights and has threatened drug dealers and other criminals with death. He warned he would withdraw the Philippines from the United Nations after its human rights experts called for an independent investigation into extrajudicial killings under his rule. He described the world body as hypocritical for failing to prevent genocides worldwide.

Divers re-enter Thai cave to search for 13 cut off by floods

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP)—About a dozen navy SEAL divers and other rescuers reentered a partly flooded cave in northern Thailand on Tuesday morning to search for 12 boys and their soccer coach who've been stranded three nights in the sprawling caverns cut off by rising water.

Even though more rain fell overnight, the initial chambers inside the cave were dry. A power line was extended into the cave to provide light and ventilation and help divers communicate with those outside.

Navy Lt. Naponwath Homsai said the divers will enter the water after they reach a chamber farther inside that was flooded almost to its ceiling on Monday. "We hope that the water level has gone down but we will have to see. Today we will try to find passages which are under the water that hopefully will lead to other chambers."

The sprawling cave complex extends several kilometers and has wide chambers and narrow passageways with rocky outcrops and changes in elevation. Still, officials have said they are hopeful the boys found a safe space away from the floods.

The boys, aged 11-16, and their 25-year-old coach were believed to have entered the Tham Luang Nang Non cave in Chiang Rai province late Saturday afternoon. A mother reported that her son did not return from soccer practice that day, setting off the search.

Rising waters Monday evening frustrated efforts to search farther in the cave, and the efforts were halted temporarily. During the night, rescue teams and electricians extended a power line 1 kilometer (.6 miles) into the cave.

"We hope this would provide lights for work and fans for ventilation for the SEAL team," Chiang Rai Gov. Narongsak Osottanakorn said. "Also, it means we can use electric engines to pump water out from the cave as well."

Parents waited overnight in tents outside the cave entrance as rain poured. Medics sat in a tent nearby, and the bicycles, backpacks and soccer cleats the boys left behind remained at the entrance.

Naponwath said late Monday that other shoes and bags belonging to the group had been left in a cave chamber, and "We believe the students have gone further in."

Tuesday morning, relatives and others performed a ritual calling for those who are missing. They played drums and gongs and two relatives held fishing nets as symbols to fish out lost spirits from the cave. Organizer Jiratat Kodyee aid the ritual was a traditional way of showing support for the boys' families.

At a prayer session the previous evening, some relatives walked inside the cave entrance, where their cries echoed off the walls. "My son, come on out! I am waiting for you here!" one woman cried. Another kneeled down near the bicycles and prayed, asking "Where is my child?"

Namhom Boonpiam, whose 13-year-old son Mongkol is among the missing, said she had been waiting at the entrance since Saturday night.

"I haven't slept and I hope that all of them can come out, all safe and sound," she said. "My son is a strong boy. I still have hope."

Authorities have said footprints and handprints were found inside the cave complex, and that tourists trapped there by past floods have been rescued after the waters receded.

Officials are hopeful there are still safe spaces in the cave complex despite the flooding, Chiang Rai Deputy Governor Passakorn Bunyalak told a news conference.

"We're confident that the kids should still be in good condition," he said, noting that rescuers had seen nothing inside the cave to indicate otherwise.

Getting farther into the cave has required lots of oxygen and special diving skills, which would also complicate rescue efforts once the boys are found, Passakorn said. He said divers might have to first bring in food and the boys might need to wait out the flood or learn the basics of scuba to get out.

ASIAN BRIEFS

In sign of detente, North Korea skips annual anti-US rally

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—In another sign of detente following the summit between leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump, North Korea has decided to skip one of the most symbolic and politically charged events of its calendar: the annual "anti-U.S. imperialism" rally marking the start of the Korean War. Fist-pumping, flag-waving and slogan-shouting masses of Pyongyang residents normally assemble each year for the rally to kick off a month of anti-U.S., Korean War-focused events designed to strengthen nationalism and unity. It all culminates on July 27, which North Korea celebrates as a national holiday called the day of "Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War." Last year's event was held in Kim Il Sung Square with a reported 100,000 people attending. North Korea even issued special anti-U.S. postage stamps. Officials had no on-the-record comment on the decision not to hold the event this year. But Associated Press staff in the North Korean capital confirmed Monday that it would not be held.

Indonesia identifies likely location of sunken ferry

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia has identified the suspected location of an overcrowded ferry that sank last week in a deep volcanic crater lake but will need international help to recover the wreck, the chief of the national search and rescue agency said Monday. The ferry had some 200 people on board—about five times its capacity—but only 18, including the boat's captain, survived the sinking in rough weather June 17 on Lake Toba. Few bodies have been recovered and officials have said many of the dead are likely trapped inside the vessel. The search agency chief, Muhammad Syaugi, said in a television interview that an object that was located at a depth of 490 meters (1,607 feet) was about 20 meters (66 feet) long and 5 meters (16 feet) wide, consistent with the boat's dimensions. Sonar equipment from Indonesia's navy was deployed on Friday. Divers could reach depths of only 50 meters (164 feet) in the lake's cold and dark waters.

World

Venezuela's wealthy beat water crisis drilling private wells

AP
In this May 31, 2018 photo, a worker clears the mud from a drill as a water well is put in at a luxury apartment complex in the Campo Alegre neighborhood of Caracas, Venezuela.

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Reaching for the faucet felt like a frustrating game of chance for Elizabeth Robles.

At first, water flowed only one or two days a week, so Robles, president of her homeowners' association, hired trucks to fill the building's underground storage tank. With self-imposed rationing, the residents had water—but only for an hour, three times each day.

"When you get home at five in the afternoon all sweaty, you couldn't take a shower," said Robles, a small business owner and lawyer. "It's like punishment by water."

Finally they were fed up. Since the government couldn't provide water, they decided to drill their own well alongside their apartment building in the tony Campo Alegre neighborhood, an increasingly popular solution among the well-to-do as Venezuela's water system crumbles along with its socialist-run economy.

Venezuela's meltdown has been accelerating under President Nicolas Maduro's rule, prompting masses of people to abandon the nation in frustration at shortages of food and medicine, street violence, rampant blackouts—and now sputtering faucets.

Robles said she and her neighbors hired a drilling firm in February for $7,000—roughly $280 per family. At least three other buildings on their tree-lined street, which is near the city's most-exclusive country club, have hired the same engineer.

The firm moves its crew and towering yellow rig from one work site to the next. The noisy diesel-powered machine clatters around the clock for several days until the drill strikes water, generally about 260 feet (80 meters) down.

Meanwhile, the less fortunate struggle with dwindling public water supplies, hoping sporadic flows will fill their 150-gallon (560-liter) plastic storage tanks fitted with buzzing electric pumps. Or they stand in line at trickling hillside springs to fill up empty jugs for free.

"Sometimes your dirty clothes pile up," said Carlos Garcia, an unemployed construction worker who used up eight hours one day filling containers at a spring.

Neighborhood water shortages have sparked more than 400 protests countrywide in the first five months of the year, according to the Venezuelan Observatory of Social Conflict.

Caracas once had a world-class water system, pumping water from far-off reservoirs over towering mountains into the valley that cradles the city. Now its pipes are bursting, pumps are failing and a small herd of cattle grazes at the bottom of the Mariposa reservoir outside the city, feeding on grass that should be deep underwater.

A lack of rain compounds the lack of maintenance, experts say.

Jose Maria de Viana, former president of Caracas' state-run water provider, Hidrocapital, blames incompetence, and dismisses the government's explanation that the rainy season has been slow to kick off and replenish drained reservoirs. The system was designed to see the city through dry spells, he said.

"Without staying on top of the problems every day, we'll have less and less water in the city," De Viana said. "We'll only have more protesting and rage."

Officials at Hidrocapital and Venezuela's Ecosocialism and Water Ministry did not respond to requests for comment by The Associated Press.

Well driller Fernando Gomez at the firm Venezuela Pump Engineering said calls have spiked in the last two months from people desperate for water. The phone rings four or five times a day, compared to one or two calls a week a year ago. He said the company's single drilling rig doesn't get a rest.

"Everybody in the world wants it now," Gomez said.

Most of the private wells are going in illegally. The law requires a permit before drilling starts, but the paperwork can take up to two years, and few are willing to wait. When officials stick their nose in, a building's residents ask the best-connected among them to pull strings.

But drilling isn't an option for the vast majority of Venezuelans who have seen wages pulverized by a collapsing currency and five-digit inflation. The minimum wage amounts to less than $2 a month.

Down a maze of narrow passageways in Petare, one of Venezuela's most sprawling slums, Carmen Rivero said water is a source of celebration when it flows, and anger when it doesn't—which is most of the time. She said the neighborhood recently went three months without tap water, and before that, a full eight months. Residents get by filling water barrels from a spring and service from city water trucks.

Syrian troops push south as US condemns truce breakdown

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria troops advanced against rebels in the south on Monday, in a nearly a weeklong offensive that has displaced thousands and triggered U.S. condemnation.

The U.S. State Department blamed Russia, a close ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad, for the breakdown of a cease-fire agreement reached last year for the region, which borders Jordan and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. Jordan, which is already hosting hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees, said it refuses to accept any more, as thousands displaced by the latest violence made their way toward the border.

The pro-state Central Military Media said Syrian troops have seized most of the villages and towns in a rocky area in northeastern Daraa. The government's aim is to reach the border with Jordan, currently in rebel hands.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the government has also been bombing areas in southwestern Daraa, seeking to take back an air base captured by rebels in 2014. The Observatory said the violence, which began last week, has reached the contested city of Daraa, the provincial capital. At least 29 civilians have been killed and nearly 20,000 displaced over the past week, mostly from northeastern Daraa, the Observatory said.

Most of the displaced headed south, to areas close to the Jordanian border, according to the Observatory. Another activist-operated media group, Step News, said some of the displaced set up tents near the Golan Heights. It is not clear how close the displaced are to either border.

In remarks published Monday, Jordan's government spokeswoman said her country will not take in Syrians fleeing the latest offensive.

Jumana Ghunaimat was quoted as saying that Jordan has already absorbed large numbers of Syrian refugees and that "we simply cannot receive more." She said the kingdom is working with the U.S. and Russia to protect its national interests.

Jordan hosts about 660,000 registered refugees, but says the actual number is twice as high.

Report: 86 killed in Nigeria as farmers, herders clash

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Scores of people died in central Nigeria during vicious weekend clashes between mostly Muslim herders and Christian farmers, with one report citing police saying 86 people were killed. By some accounts, the growing conflict over resources has become deadlier than Nigeria's Boko Haram extremist insurgency.

Nigeria's president accused unnamed politicians in a statement Monday of taking advantage of the chaos ahead of next year's elections, calling it "incredibly unfortunate."

Dramatic footage from Jos showed angry people waving machetes and sticks and shouting at passing security forces as they weaved around overturned and burning vehicles. Smoke rose in the distance. Women and children clutching overstuffed bags piled into the back of trucks, seeking a way out.

President Muhammadu Buhari warned against reprisal attacks after the "deeply unfortunate killings across a number of communities" in central Plateau State as the military, police and counter-terror units were sent to end the bloodshed.

"No efforts will be spared" to find the attackers, Buhari said.

Nigeria's government said "scores" were killed, but did not provide an official death toll. The independent Channels Television cited a Plateau State police spokesman, Mathias Tyopev, as saying 86 people had been killed and at least 50 houses destroyed.

Mass burials began Monday amid fears that the death toll was even higher.

"Please remain calm," said the Plateau State governor, Simon Bako Lalong, as a helicopter whirred overhead. "It is very, very, unfortunate that an incident is happening again like this."

The deadly clashes between herders and farmers are a growing security concern in Africa's most populous country, which is roughly split between Muslims in the north and Christians in the south.

The threat from Boko Haram, which continues to carry out attacks in the northeast, has been cited as a cause of the growing tensions. Herders in search of safe grazing land, and also feeling the effects of climate change, have been forced south into more populated farming communities.

The widespread security issues pose a major challenge to Buhari, a Muslim former military ruler who won office in a democratic transfer of power in 2015, as elections approach next year.

The latest clashes began when about 100 cattle were rustled and some herders were killed, the statement from Buhari's office said. "Less than 24 hours later, violence broke out. Some thugs then took advantage of the situation, turning it into an opportunity to extort the public, and to attack people from rival political parties."

Some people were dragged from their cars and attacked if they said they supported certain politicians, the statement said.

The Plateau State governor announced a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew in the communities of Jos South, Riyom and Barkin Ladi until further notice.

"Observe the curfew, observe the curfew, and I will still remind them to observe the curfew," he said.

Focus

AP

In this Saturday, June 23, 2018, file photo, a guard walks by toys placed for migrant children by protesters as they march to Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children, in Homestead, Fla. Foster care advocates say the government won't likely be able to reunite thousands of children separated from parents who crossed the border illegally, and some will end up in an American foster care system that is stacked against Latinos and other minorities.

Migrant kids could end up in already strained foster system

By JESSE J. HOLLAND
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Foster care advocates say the government won't likely be able to reunite thousands of children separated from parents who crossed the border illegally, and some will end up in an American foster care system that is stacked against Latinos and other minorities.

With few Spanish-speaking caseworkers, it's a challenge tracking down family members of the children who live south of the U.S.-Mexico border, and other relatives living in the states might be afraid to step forward to claim them because of fears of being detained or deported themselves.

Many complications have arisen for these separated families since the Trump administration adopted its "zero-tolerance" policy on entering the country illegally. As many as 2,300 children have been taken from their migrant parents at the border and long-term treatment of them is a concern.

"Because they are Latino and because their relatives are living, not in Europe, not in Asia, but down south of the border, they are going to be discriminated against," said Richard Villasana, founder of Forever Homes for Foster Kids, who concentrates on locating relatives of foster children. "That's exactly what's going to happen to these migrant kids. The probability they are going to get better treatment than our U.S.-born Latino children? It's not going to happen."

Those children who do get placed with families face the likelihood of losing their language and culture, which advocates say could have a detrimental effect on how they develop.

Peter Schey, the attorney in a lawsuit resulting in the 1997 Flores settlement that generally bars children from being kept in immigration detention for more than 20 days and is now being challenged by the Trump administration, said he was concerned that several thousand children have already been separated from their parents "without the Trump administration having any effective procedures in place to reunite children with their parents, many of whom have already been deported."

Officials have said they are working to reunite families as soon as possible but have provided no clear answers on how that will happen. The children are now in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, and can be "held in a temporary shelter or hosted by an appropriate family."

The Homeland Security Department said in fiscal year 2017, before the zero tolerance policy began, it was able to place 90 percent of its children with either a parent or close relative. And Immigration and Customs Enforcement is working on "dedicating a facility as its primary family reunification and removal center," a briefing sheet said.

AP

An immigrant child fleeing Central America uses makeshift shoelaces crafted from the aluminum foil-like material from blankets authorities give migrants for warmth, after the cloth ones were confiscated by the U.S. Border Patrol, in downtown McAllen, Texas, Sunday, June 24, 2018. Immigrants arrived on a government bus at the Central Station bus terminal. From there the families were gathered up by the Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley and walked to their location a few blocks away. There they would shower, eat, rest and receive help getting transportation to their future destinations. Shoelaces are confiscated from immigrants in custody to prevent suicides.

However, many child welfare professionals worry these children will "end up in a child welfare system where we already have thousands of children across this country where many of them are trying to reunify" with parents and relatives, said Maria L. Quintanilla, founder and executive director of the Latino Family Institute.

In 2016, more than 91,000 Hispanic or Latino children were in the foster care system in the United States, according to government data. Hispanic children made up a little more than 1 in 5 — 21 percent — of all children in foster care in September 2016, according to the most recent data available. That was an increase from 10 years earlier, when Hispanic children made up 19 percent of the foster care population.

More than 54,000 Hispanic children entered foster care in 2016, with more than 25,000 waiting to be adopted at the end of the fiscal year. More than 53,000 exited the foster care system that year because they were reunified with their parents, adopted or entered guardianship with another family.

By comparison, there were more than 191,000 non-Hispanic white children in foster care in fiscal 2016, with around 127,000 entering the system, 112,000 exiting the system and 51,000 waiting to be adopted at the end of the fiscal year.

In a July 2017 paper, San Diego State University economics department chair Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes and Oxford University professor Esther Arenas-Arroyo wrote that the increase in immigration enforcement between 2001 and 2015 contributed to raising the share of Hispanic children in foster care between 15 and 21 percent.

Villasana said it's rare that foster care agencies will go the extra mile to find families who live in Mexico or Latin America for children already in the foster care system.

"These migrant kids are going to be put into the same discriminatory system that discriminates against a Latino child because their relatives happen to be located south of the border," Villasana said. "You've got individuals who will not pay to bring in someone who speaks Spanish, understands Spanish, can read Spanish and knows the country and knows how to proceed in this matter, and will pick up the phone and go do this work."

There are some people who will, but "we're talking about the exceptions rather than the rule," he added. "The rule primarily for the United States is that those children are not going to go anywhere."

If they end up in the foster care system, social workers will be concerned with trying to place them with families, given that they know the children just came into the United States with relatives or to stay with relatives who might not want to risk being deported to claim them, Quintanilla said.

"I would be very, very cautious about wanting to work with a child we know for a fact has a family," she said. "Why would we want to place that child with another family, a nonrelated family, with the only crime being the government's zero-tolerance policy (keeping relatives from claiming the children)?"

Cultural concerns also come into play as children can find themselves in unfamiliar surroundings after being separated from their parents — possibly in households where their native language isn't spoken, Quintanilla said.

"It's difficult for any child to be separated from their parents, regardless of what the circumstances are, but if you're placed in a home that doesn't look like you, that doesn't have the familiar smells that doesn't have the familiar rituals, it just adds on to the loss for this child," she said.

Good Housekeeping

By DANIEL NEMAN
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

TNS

From left, Honeydew Basil Spritzer, Lime Vodka, Chasing Basil Cocktail, Minty Cucumber Melon Drink, and Thyme Lemondade.

Cocktails from the garden

Now is the best time of the year, when fruit and vegetables and herbs are in such abundance.

If you don't have them in your garden, you can get them at a farmers market, a produce stand or a grocery store.

What to do with such bounty? Salads, desserts and entrées are the obvious answers, of course, but why not use fresh produce to punch up your cocktails, too?

Nothing is more refreshing on a hot summer's day than a drink of cucumber, honeydew, mint and lemon vodka. Or how about a limeade with gin and cilantro?

They're easy to make and delicious to drink. And they must be good for you (right?) because they mix fresh produce with the alcohol.

Gin is a good place to start, because it is so summery and also because it goes so well with botanical ingredients.

Gin-and-lemon is a drink you sometimes see referred to in old books and movies, though no one seems to make it anymore. Still, the idea is as sound as it ever was, particularly if a simple syrup is involved (which would make it a cocktail called a Bee's Knees).

It's just a little step from a Bee's Knees to our summertime sample, a Thyme Lemonade. Martha Stewart, of all people, came up with this one. You simply mix up a batch of thyme-infused simple syrup (it's just sugar dissolved in water) and stir in fresh lemon juice, water and gin.

It's a delightful concoction, and just the thing to beat the summer's heat. The essence of thyme brings an unexpected complexity and depth to the drink that keeps it from being overly frivolous. Thank you, Martha.

Gin is also the spirit of record in a drink unfortunately called the Cuke. Vodka is said to be an acceptable substitute, but the sort of people who would put vodka in this particular mix are also probably the sort who think the Cuke is a good name for a drink.

As you have guessed, it has cucumbers in it, muddled together with limes and mint. Sugar plays a role, too, along with just enough sparkling water to keep it light and enliven the muddled ingredients. A spear of cucumber in each glass adds just the right touch; it's whimsical, but the aroma also adds to your enjoyment of the drink.

Wine spritzers had their day in the sun — the hot summer sun — in the 1980s, but they fell out of favor when people decided they were too sweet. Still, the idea is solid, particularly at this time of year.

A Honeydew Basil Spritzer is just the thing. Honeydew and basil are a natural summer combination, two different sides of the same idea of fresh and cool. Add a healthy dose of light, crisp and fruity sauvignon blanc, and just enough simple syrup to make it lightly sweet, not Bartles & Jaymes-sweet.

A splash of soda water is all you need for a bit of effervescence, without diluting the flavors.

Just as refreshing is a Lime Vodka, a deceptively simple combination of limeade and vodka, plus a sprinkling of minced cilantro. Gin could be used in place of vodka, but here I think vodka is the better option; this drink requires a cleaner, less fussy taste. Also, it's called Lime Vodka.

The cilantro is the deceptive part, grounding the drink in a kind of herbal reality and adding a hint of earthiness. Cilantro is not what you think of when you think of cocktails, but maybe it should be.

In contrast to the other drinks, a Chasing Basil Cocktail is fairly complex in taste. The difference is a single ingredient, elderflower liqueur, such as St. Germain, which had a spasm of popularity a few years ago and can still be found in quite a few liquor cabinets.

It doesn't take much, just a tablespoon of the liqueur to add a touch of sweet mystery

Chasing Basil Cocktail. TNS

to a drink featuring the now-familiar blend of cucumber, basil, lime and gin. But there is one more ingredient from the garden, too, that makes this drink special: freshly made watermelon juice.

Watermelon juice is easy to make; all you need is the red part of a watermelon and a blender. It is certainly an ingredient that deserves attention when you're making summertime drinks.

The final drink I made, Minty Cucumber Melon Drink, was different from the others because it wasn't as light. It's more of a smoothie with an alcoholic kick.

All you do is blend together a cucumber and a couple of cups of honeydew. Then you muddle some mint in the bottom of a glass, pour in the juice and add a shot of lemon vodka.

Don't have lemon vodka? Just add regular vodka and a couple of squeezes of lemon.

It's summer. You're relaxing. Don't worry about it.

THYME LEMONADE

Yield: 8 servings

1 1/2 cups granulated sugar

1 bunch fresh thyme, plus sprigs, for garnish

2 cups fresh lemon juice (from about 10 lemons)

1 cup gin

In a medium saucepan, bring sugar, thyme and 1 cup water to a boil. Stir until sugar is dissolved, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in lemon juice, gin and 6 cups of cold water. Strain into a large pitcher. Refrigerate until cold, at least 1 hour and up to 1 week. Serve over ice, garnished with thyme sprigs, if desired.

Recipe from marthastewart.com

THE CUKE

Yield: 6 servings

6 limes, rinsed, divided

1 cup packed mint leaves, no stems, plus 6 sprigs for garnish

3 cucumbers, divided

1/2 cup granulated sugar

2 cups gin or vodka

Sparkling water

1. Thinly slice 3 limes and place in a pitcher. Juice the rest and add juice to the pitcher. Add mint leaves. Peel and slice 2 of the cucumbers and add; add sugar. Muddle ingredients (a potato masher works well). Add gin or vodka. Refrigerate for 30 minutes or longer for flavors to blend.

2. Cut remaining cucumber lengthwise into 6 spears. Fill 6 highball glasses with ice. Strain mixture from pitcher into each. Top with sparkling water. Garnish each glass with a sprig of mint and a cucumber spear, and serve.

Created by Adam Frank, adapted by the New York Times

HONEYDEW BASIL SPRITZER

Yield: 4 servings

1/4 honeydew melon, diced

1 small package of basil (about 12 to 16 leaves)

4 to 5 ounces simple syrup, see note

1 bottle sauvignon blanc

Soda water

Note: To make simple syrup, heat 1/2 cup granulated sugar and 1/2 cup water in a small pan, stirring frequently until the sugar dissolves. You will not need the entire amount of this syrup for this drink.

Muddle together the melon, basil and simple syrup. Divide among 4 glasses. Divide the wine among the glasses and top each one with a heavy splash of soda water.

Recipe by ahouseinthehills.com

Lime Vodka. TNS

LIME VODKA

Yield: 1 drink

1 cup limeade, see note

2 ounces vodka or gin

1 tablespoon fresh cilantro, finely minced

Note: To make limeade, heat together 1/4 cup granulated sugar and ¾ cup water, stirring, until sugar dissolves. Add 1/4 cup lime juice, from about 11/2 limes.

In a cocktail shaker, shake together limeade, vodka and cilantro with some ice. Strain into a glass. Add fresh ice and serve.

Adapted from foodfanatic.com

THE CHASING BASIL COCKTAIL

Yield: 1 serving

3 basil leaves, torn, plus a sprig for garnish

2 slices cucumber

1/2 lime, sliced into wedges for easier muddling

1/2 teaspoon raw or granulated sugar, if necessary

1 1/2 ounces gin, or rum or vodka

1/2 ounce elderflower liqueur

2 ounces fresh watermelon juice, see note

Soda water

Note: To make watermelon juice, remove large seeds from the red part of a watermelon, and then purée in a blender. Strain through a fine-mesh strainer to remove any fibrous parts.

In a cocktail shaker, thoroughly muddle the basil, cucumber and lime wedges; include the sugar if the watermelon juice is not especially ripe and sweet. Add the gin, elderflower liqueur and watermelon juice, plus a handful of ice. Shake until cold. Pour into a tall glass, finish with soda water and garnish with a sprig of basil.

Recipe by hollyandflora.com

MINTY CUCUMBER MELON DRINK

Yield: 2 servings

1 (7-inch) cucumber, peeled

2 cups honeydew melon, seeds scooped and chopped

1 tablespoon fresh mint

3 ounces lemon vodka

Blend the cucumber and honeydew in a blender. Place the mint in the bottom of 2 highball glasses and add a little of the juice to each. Muddle the mint leaves. Add the rest of the juice and the vodka and fill to the top of the glasses with ice.

Adapted from veganyackattack.com.

Life & Style

Heather Locklear arrested for alleged attack on deputy, EMT

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Heather Locklear has been arrested on suspicion of fighting with first responders for the second time this year, authorities said Monday.

Locklear appeared extremely intoxicated when deputies arrived at her Southern California home at about 11 p.m. Sunday to investigate a dispute between Locklear and either family members or friends, Ventura County Sheriff's Capt. Garo Kuredjian said.

Locklear kicked one of the deputies then kicked a paramedic who was called to evaluate her because of her intoxication, Kuredjian said.

She was taken to a hospital then taken to jail and booked on two misdemeanor battery counts, he said.

Locklear was released Monday morning after posting $20,000 bail.

She checked in to a treatment facility later Monday, a person close to Locklear said. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because of medical privacy restrictions.

Locklear's managers did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

AP

In this July 24, 2013 file photo, actress Heather Locklear arrives at the TNT 25th Anniversary Party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

In February, she was arrested under similar circumstances and charged with four misdemeanor counts of battery on an officer. Authorities say she attacked four deputies called to her home because of a dispute with her boyfriend. She has pleaded not guilty in that case, which remains pending.

The 56-year-old actress was among the biggest television stars of the 1980s and 1990s, with roles on "Dynasty," ''T.J. Hooker" and "Melrose Place."

She still works frequently, with recurring roles on cable shows like "Franklin & Bash" and the Tyler Perry series "Too Close to Home."

But she has struggled in recent years with substance abuse. In 2008, she was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of prescription drugs. She pleaded to a lesser charge of reckless driving and was sentenced to unsupervised probation.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Hip-hop stars Cardi B and Offset wed quietly months ago

ATLANTA (AP)—A marriage certificate shows hip-hop stars Cardi B and the Migos' Offset were quietly married months ago. Sunday night while accepting best group award at the BET Awards, Offset raised some eyebrows when he said, "I thank my wife, you should thank yours." Cardi B confirmed the marriage in a tweet Monday. A marriage certificate shows that Cardi B and Offset, whose real names are Belcalis Almanzar and Kiari Cephus respectively, were wed Sept. 20 in Atlanta, but only announced their engagement in October. A month after the marriage, Offset proposed to Cardi on stage at Power 99's Powerhouse concert, shocking fans. Grammy-nominated Cardi B shared that she was pregnant during a performance on "Saturday Night Live" in April.

'Jersey Shore' star's ex-girlfriend arrested in Vegas fight

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Police and her lawyer say the 31-year-old ex-girlfriend of "Jersey Shore" TV show star Ronnie Ortiz-Magro is facing a misdemeanor domestic battery charge in Las Vegas after a weekend fight. Officer Laura Meltzer said Monday that Jennifer Harley of Las Vegas was arrested Sunday night after officers responded to a report of a man trying to pull a woman from a damaged vehicle near a crossroads southwest of the Las Vegas Strip. Harley's attorney, Michael Cristalli, confirmed the arrest but said he could not immediately comment about the circumstances. Meltzer says Ortiz-Magro was bleeding, that officers determined Harley was the aggressor and that the two had a domestic relationship. Harley and Ortiz-Magro have a young daughter together. Records show Harley was released from jail pending an initial court appearance.

Former Trump press secretary Sean Spicer developing TV show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former White House press secretary Sean Spicer is working on a television interview show in which he banters with guests about a variety of topics. A spokesman for TV syndication company Debmar-Mercury said Monday that a pilot episode of the series, titled "Sean Spicer's Common Ground," is in the works. No other details about the episode were released. The plans were first reported by The New York Times. The Times reported the show would feature Spicer interviewing public figures and have respectful conversations on topics ranging from the media to sports to marriage. Attorney Michael Avenatti, who represents porn star Stormy Daniels in lawsuits about an alleged affair with President Donald Trump, says he was approached to be a guest on the inaugural episode. Avenatti wrote on Twitter he declined.

Media fight access restrictions on child detention centers

NEW YORK (AP)—The children at the center of the national debate over President Donald Trump's immigration policy have been heard about but rarely seen.

News organizations say they are pushing back every day against Trump administration restrictions on access to facilities where children separated from their parents are being held. Government handouts satisfy few, and there have been disputes raised in some of the few independent instances where a sense emerges of what is happening at the border.

"It's not enough for the government to provide curated images," said Noah Oppenheim, NBC News president. "The public expects and demands and has the right to see a verified picture of what is going on inside these detention centers and how this policy is being carried out in their name."

After reporters were allowed to tour one Texas facility without cameras, the administration objected to descriptions of fenced-in enclosures as cages. A still photograph of a crying Honduran toddler whose mother was stopped crossing into the United States became a symbol to many of the since-reversed separation policy, in large part because other images were limited. The government revealed Friday that the girl and her mother were being held together.

Calls for access collide with a longstanding tradition of not allowing photographs of children in government care that the feds have applied to the immigrant children. The federal Health and Human Services department cites a 2015 policy that predates Trump's presidency in prohibiting cameras, interviews with children or tours without two weeks' notice. Their age leaves the children vulnerable to abuse, HHS said.

If the government wants to negotiate, there are ways to set ground rules to protect the interests of both sides. For instance, journalists are often embedded with military forces with the promise they won't reveal strategy or troop movements that could put people at risk. CBS News is willing to negotiate, although standards editor Al Ortiz said Monday that CBS ran a story that showed some immigrant children being transported outside of campgrounds with some faces visible.

Leak fight nixes Stormy Daniels meet with feds in Cohen case

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and CATHERINE LUCEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Daniels

Stormy Daniels' planned meeting with investigators Monday in the federal probe of President Donald Trump's longtime personal attorney was abruptly canceled just hours before it was to start after an ugly, finger-pointing spat between prosecutors and the porn star's lawyer over who tipped off the media to the sit-down.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, was supposed to meet with prosecutors from the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan in preparation for a possible grand jury appearance as they work to assemble a case against Trump's longtime personal lawyer, Michael Cohen.

But after several news organizations, including The Associated Press, reported on the meeting, two prosecutors called Daniels' lawyer, Michael Avenatti, and told him that they were concerned about media attention in the case, he said.

Avenatti offered to move the meeting to another location and reiterated that Daniels—who he says has been cooperating with prosecutors for months—was ready to go forward with the meeting, but they called back to cancel it, he said. The meeting has not been rescheduled, he said.

Daniels has said she had sex with Trump in 2006 when he was married, which Trump has denied. As part of their investigation into Cohen, prosecutors have been examining the $130,000 payment that was made to Daniels as part of a confidentiality agreement days before the 2016 presidential election.

"We believe canceling the meeting because the press has now caught wind of it is ridiculous," Avenatti wrote in an email to Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicolas Roos. "We do not think it was any secret that at some point you were going to meet with my client."

In response, Roos accused Avenatti of leaking the details of the meeting—an allegation that Avenatti said was "patently false"—and said it called into question Avenatti's "commitment to maintaining the required confidentiality" of what is discussed in the meeting with Daniels.

Street artist Banksy splashes Paris with works on migrants

PARIS (AP) — Banksy is believed to have taken his message on migration to Paris, which has seen seven works attributed to the provocative British street artist.

The works attributed to Banksy have been discovered in recent days, including one near a former center for migrants at the city's northern edge that depicts a child spray-painting wallpaper over a swastika.

Nicolas Laugero Lasserre, editor of the Artistikrezo website that broke the story, said he heard a few weeks ago through contacts in the French street art world that Banksy was planning a trip.

He said he started looking for the works and came across the one in the northern Porte de la Chappelle neighborhood. The same wallpaper stencil was used in a 2009 exposition at the Bristol Museum, he said, describing it as "a real signature" of the elusive artist.

It didn't take long for others to add — or detract — from Banksy's work. First came the blue tag over the wallpaper. Then on Monday, another artist temporarily covered over Banksy's work with a poster depicting a woman's face, but the paper was quickly pulled off and an art restorer frantically tried to cover the works with a clear plastic.

Not all the works directly reference migration. One is a play on the 1801 painting of Napoleon crossing the Alps. Others show rats, including one that appeared to have been altered over the weekend.

"It lands at a key political moment, and for me that's really the genius of Banksy," Laugero Lasserre said.

Banksy's publicist did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A man takes a picture of a graffiti believed to be attributed to street artist Banksy, in Paris, Monday, June 25, 2018. AP

Former Trump aide apologizes for 'cotton-picking' remark

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former campaign aide to President Donald Trump has apologized after he told a black man and fellow guest on a Fox News show he was out of his "cotton-picking mind."

David Bossie is a former deputy manager of Trump's campaign who represents Maryland in the Republican National Committee. He made the comment to Joel Payne, a black Democratic strategist, during a "Fox and Friends" appearance Sunday.

Payne responded by saying, "I've got some relatives who picked cotton," and that he wouldn't tolerate such attacks.

Bossie tweeted later Sunday that he should have chosen his words "more carefully." He apologized to Payne, Fox News and its viewers.

A Fox News spokeswoman sent The Washington Post a statement from the network saying Bossie's comments were "deeply offensive and wholly inappropriate."

Lincoln Foundation's Marilyn Monroe dress sells for $50,000

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation's unusual ownership of a black dress once belonging to movie star Marilyn Monroe is ending as it sold over the weekend for $50,000.

The dress was among several items that the Springfield, Illinois, foundation put up for auction in Las Vegas. Darren Julien of Julien's Auctions tells The Chicago Tribune that the dress sold for near its estimated price. Seven photographs of Monroe sold for between $1,000 and $3,000 each. Bids for a bust of poet Carl Sandburg didn't reach the foundation's minimum.

The money will help repay $10 million the foundation owes on a 2007 loan for buying a collection that included the Monroe items along with others purportedly belonging to Lincoln, including a stovepipe hat, bloodstained gloves and an 1824 book.

Russell Crowe will play Roger Ailes in new Showtime biopic

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Russell Crowe will portray Roger Ailes in a new Showtime series about the late Fox News Channel founder.

The eight-episode limited series is based on the 2014 book "The Loudest Voice In The Room" by Gabriel Sherman.

Sherman's book chronicles the rise and fall of the media mogul who shook up the American political news landscape.

No air date was announced for the series, which will focus on Ailes' journey from local television producer to one of the most influential forces in news.

Ailes was CEO of Fox for 20 years before resigning after sexual harassment allegations against him surfaced in 2016. He died at age 77 from complications after a fall in May 2017.

Crowe is best known for his roles in "Gladiator" and "A Beautiful Mind."

German agency site addresses 9/11, other conspiracy theories

BERLIN (AP) — A German government agency tasked with providing unbiased political information has launched a website suggesting that the U.S. government staged the 9/11 attacks and that aircraft contrails are poisonous — to show how illogical conspiracy theories are.

The Federal Agency for Civic Education said Monday that the mock videos on the website are aimed at people who don't pay much attention to traditional media.

The site — called "Wahre Welle TV," or True Wave TV — is designed to encourage consumers of online information to critically question what they see or read online.

To make clear the videos are not meant to be taken literally, each episode ends with the words "don't believe the crap" and links to additional resources.

The anti-bias agency also publishes materials for civics lessons.

Wife endures verbal abuse along with loveless marriage

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Oscar" for more than 30 years. He has been inattentive for more than 25 of those years. Over the last 15 years, I have found erectile dysfunction medications in his vehicles. Oscar claims he knows nothing about them. He lies constantly, even when the evidence is right in front of him. When I ask him if he is seeing other women, he claims to be impotent and tells me I am crazy.

I had an affair at 55 to try to raise my self-esteem. I once was very beautiful and even now, at age 68, I look quite good. I have stayed with my husband out of habit in spite of his hurtful comments and lack of affection.

Oscar has told me that if I need affection, "go get a job in a whorehouse." I have had three back surgeries in less than a year, and when I cry with pain, he gets annoyed and tells me to cut it out.

He's a narcissist and not much to look at. He goes out of his way to please strangers to make himself look good, but when I need a hand, I'm a "b----," and my husband doesn't lift a finger. Advice, please!

UNHAPPY IN NEW YORK

DEAR UNHAPPY: You have put up with this for how long? Your relationship with this man (I hesitate to call him a "husband") is clearly loveless. Instead of asking me for advice, look within and ask yourself, "Is this really the way I want to spend the rest of my life?" When the chips are down and you need Oscar's help, he not only turns his back but also calls you a b---- for asking.

Because you know he's cheating, hire a private detective for a month and find out who with. Then talk to a lawyer about what your rights are as a wronged wife in New York.

DEAR ABBY: My 35-year-old stepson has moved back into my home so many times I have lost count. I ask only that he keep his bedroom clean, himself clean, help around the house and look for work. He got married last January and was recently escorted to my home by the local police. His new wife had taken out a restraining order against him.

I was unemployed for two years, but recently found a new job. It's a start, but things are tight financially, and my wife had to assume the role of provider, which I dislike immensely. That's why I hate talking to her about this issue with her son.

I have asked—pleaded—to no avail, and now have run out of polite ways to tell him to get out. I don't want him to feel unwelcome, but I'm feeling very used.

FEELING USED

DEAR FEELING USED: Your feelings are accurate. And as much as you might hate it, talk to your wife about what her son is doing. At 35, he should have long been able to find lodgings other than under your roof.

By allowing her son to live (rent-free, I assume) under the conditions you have described, she's enabling it to continue for the foreseeable future. Unless changes are made, it could ruin your marriage. A first step should be to set a date by which her adult son should move out and insist he get help for the issue that led to the restraining order.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

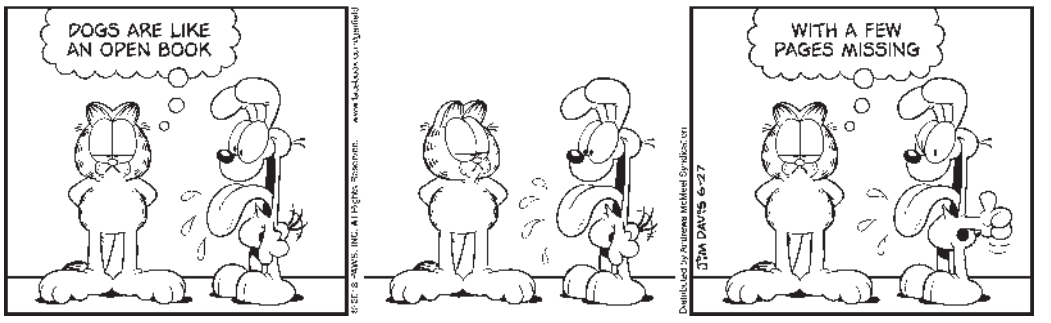
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

OK, CALVIN, START PACKING UP. WE'RE GOING HOME.
FINALLY!
NOW, NOW. THESE LITTLE OUTINGS ARE VALUABLE EXPERIENCES.
YEAH? HOW?
THEY GIVE US A CHANCE TO BE TOGETHER AS A FAMILY AND LEARN ABOUT OURSELVES.
LIKE HOW WE CAN'T STAND BEING IN SUCH CLOSE PROXIMITY WITH ONE ANOTHER THIS LONG?
EXACTLY.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



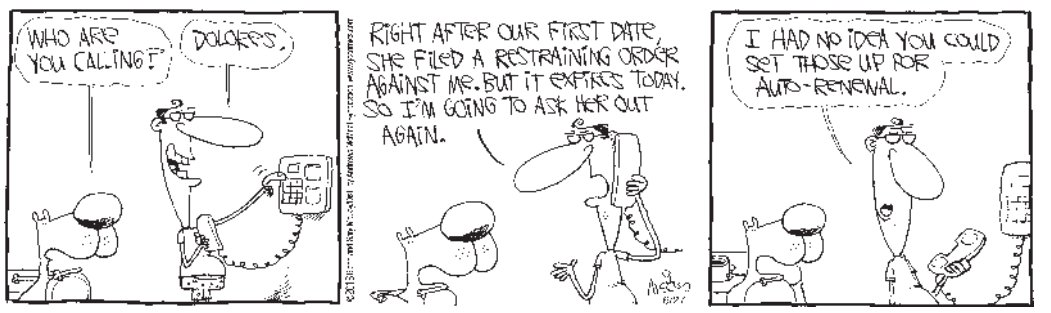
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

LITTLE HELP, HERE?
WHAT'S UP?
I'M STUCK IN A SOLITAIRE HOLE!
TAP TAP
I HAVE A TON OF WORK TO DO, BUT I CAN'T STOP PLAYING!
TAP
AND... I SHOULD DO WHAT?
DRAG ME AWAY KICKING AND SCREAMING. IT WON'T BE PLEASANT.
TYPE TAP

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WHO ARE YOU CALLING?
DOLORES.
RIGHT AFTER OUR FIRST DATE, SHE FILED A RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST ME. BUT IT EXPIRES TODAY. SO I'M GOING TO ASK HER OUT AGAIN.
I HAD NO IDEA YOU COULD SET THOSE UP FOR AUTO-RENEWAL.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

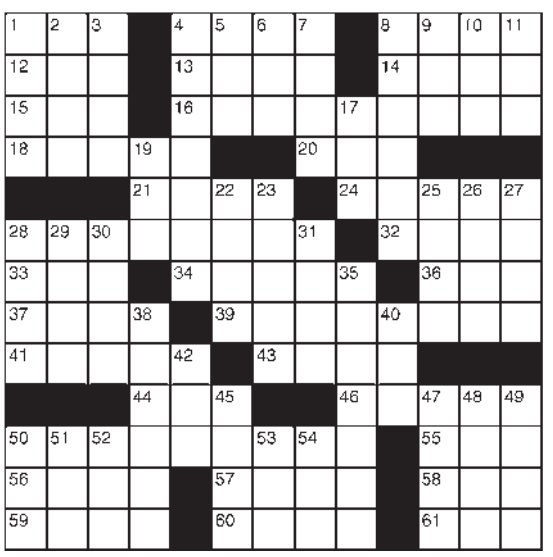
ACROSS
1 Enjoy Aspen
4 Peregrinate
8 Fly high
12 That fellow
13 Lighten
14 Bassoon's kin
15 In the style of
16 For the most part
18 Courage
20 Flow out
21 Beanies
24 Relinquished
28 In a powerful way
32 Head, to Henri
33 — whim
34 Trusty horse
36 Prohibit
37 Battery fluid
39 With gusto
41 Yarns
43 "— Little Tenderness"
44 Bill's partner
46 Critic Roger
50 In an eerie way
55 Brit's restroom
56 Madcap
57 General Robert —
58 Scary cry
59 Hostels
60 Lose traction
61 911 responder

DOWN
1 Counterfeit
2 Narc's measure
3 Big-screen format
4 Echoes
5 Rowing tool
6 "— was saying ..."
7 Viral phenomenon
8 Fruity frozen treat
9 Kimono sash
10 ISP giant
11 Marina del —
17 "Scandal" network
19 German pronoun
22 Essence
23 Winter forecast
25 Mazar of "Younger"
26 And others (Lat.)
27 Say it isn't so
28 Castle defense
29 Bygone Peruvian
30 Author Sheehy
31 Wine-label datum
35 Not weepy
38 Rots
40 Bar bill
42 Junior
45 Singles
47 North Sea feeder
48 Leeway
49 Horn sound
50 Submachine gun
51 A Bobbsey twin
52 Anderson Cooper's channel
53 Sort
54 Tiki bar necklace

Solution time: 23 mins.

S	E	L	L	■	A	L	T	A	■	F	A	N
P	L	E	A	■	C	O	E	N	■	A	M	O
F	O	O	T	F	A	L	L	T	■	N	C	S
■	■	■	V	O	I	D	■	W	A	C	K	Y
A	■	F	I	E	■	■	R	E	■	Y	■	■
L	I	R	A	■	S	H	E	R	I	F	F	S
S	E	I	■	S	C	A	M	P	■	R	I	O
O	V	E	R	E	A	S	Y	■	B	E	N	D
■	■	■	D	E	E	M	■	■	D	E	E	D	S
A	I	R	F	S	■	C	L	E	S	■	■	■
A	R	I	■	F	O	O	D	F	I	G	H	T
G	I	S	■	I	O	T	A	■	D	R	A	W
A	S	H	■	T	H	E	M	■	E	R	G	O

Yesterday's answer 6-27



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ed Westwick, 31; Drake Bell, 32; Tobey Maguire, 43; J.J. Abrams, 52.

Happy Birthday: Set the stage for advancements. Stay focused, think matters through and plan your actions with precision and detail. Make each move count, and be methodical when dealing with difficult situations. Learn from every experience, and make changes to ensure that you position yourself properly for similar situations. Look for alternative means and methods to make personal improvements. Your numbers are 5, 9, 22, 27, 36, 42, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Take stock and replace what's necessary. Take a critical look at your priorities and the way you have been living your life, and create adjustments that will point you in a healthy and vibrant direction. Make changes for the right reason. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Weigh the pros and cons of any changes you want to make. Knowing ahead of time what you are up against will help you secure the best path forward. Don't lag once you are certain of the outcome. Use your time wisely. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Make time to improve your surroundings, important relationships and personal attitude. Consider what's getting you down or holding you back; take action to turn things in your favor. Personal physical alterations will lift your spirits. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Emotions will begin to surface if you feel you haven't been dealt with fairly or that you have missed out on something that you should have been a part of. Assess whatever situation you face, and you will find an alternative route to take. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take your time. Don't feel pressured to act fast just because someone is pestering you. Doing things on your time and in your way will help you avoid letting temptation suck you into making a mistake. Don't overreact. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Put more pressure on those holding you back or causing you grief. Be blunt about what you want to see happen, and start to make changes that will keep you from falling behind. Don't let an emotional situation escalate. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Walk away from situations you cannot change. Put your time and effort into something that will help you make a difference or improve your life or personal, emotional and physical well-being. Know your rights, and stick to your agenda. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Look beyond what's right in front of you. Recognize your potential and how best to apply what you know to what needs to be done. Display kindness and consideration, but don't let the changes others make sidetrack you. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Set your sights on the improvements you want to enforce. A physical challenge will help you get into shape. The better you feel about the way you look, the more confidence you will have when dealing with others. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Look at both sides of a situation before you make a decision. You'll have more than one option, and making sure you study where each will lead you will determine how successful you will be. Change is required. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Aim for greater stability. Timing will be important when dealing with situations that can change instantly. Keep an eye on what others are doing and compensate for any negative action you are confronted with when engaging others. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Get your personal papers in order and look at investments that can help you achieve financial gains. Negotiate on your own behalf; you'll get what you want. Use your voice and implement your ideas to make change take place. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, particular and steadfast. You are overprotective and demanding.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8	5			1			
7			5		4		3	
			9		2		8	
			3		5		4	
		1			8	6	2	7
	9						1	
4							7	
9							5	
3	2	8	1				6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	6	8	9	4	1	2	3	7
2	9	3	8	7	5	1	6	4
4	1	7	2	3	6	8	9	5
1	2	4	7	6	9	3	5	8
6	8	9	1	5	3	7	4	2
3	7	5	4	8	2	6	1	9
8	3	1	5	2	4	9	7	6
7	4	6	3	9	8	5	2	1
9	5	2	6	1	7	4	8	3

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/27

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

OCEANFRONT VIEWS **Solution: 7 letters**

S	E	C	A	R	R	E	T	I	U	S	O	A	B	P
U	K	T	W	S	T	R	O	S	E	R	D	D	A	R
N	L	R	N	A	I	I	A	W	A	H	N	N	L	I
S	A	A	O	A	V	I	L	L	A	O	O	A	C	V
E	W	N	I	W	T	E	T	S	E	R	C	R	O	A
T	D	Q	G	T	E	U	S	P	A	L	M	E	N	T
S	R	U	N	Y	R	R	R	M	R	W	E	V	Y	E
A	A	I	I	Z	I	A	I	E	E	N	D	E	Ⓕ	C
F	O	L	X	O	O	C	P	F	A	M	O	O	Ⓡ	I
K	B	E	A	C	H	W	E	D	A	R	G	P	Ⓤ	T
A	R	V	L	S	E	N	I	L	E	R	O	H	Ⓢ	N
E	E	A	E	P	A	T	I	O	B	E	Z	A	G	A
R	E	R	R	E	S	E	R	V	E	D	C	A	L	M
B	Z	T	G	A	R	D	E	N	O	O	G	A	L	O
S	E	A	S	I	D	E	G	A	T	T	O	C	F	R

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Area, Balcony, Beach, Boardwalk, Breakfast, Breeze, Calm, Coast, Condo, Cottage, Cozy, Face, Fireworks, Garden, Gazebo, Hawaiian, Lagoon, Nature, Palm, Panoramic, Partial, Patio, Private, Relaxing, Reserved, Resorts, Rest, Romantic, Room, Seaside, Shoreline, Suite, Sunset, Surf, Terrace, Tranquil, Travel, Tree, Upgrade, Veranda, Villa, Waves

Yesterday's Answer: Prices

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Maeda, Hernandez lift Dodgers past Cubs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Enrique Hernandez has been around the Los Angeles Dodgers long enough to know that an extended hot streak, even from a utility player, can lead to regular playing time.

Hernandez hit another homer, Kenta Maeda pitched seven strong innings and the Dodgers beat the Chicago Cubs, 2-1, on Monday night.

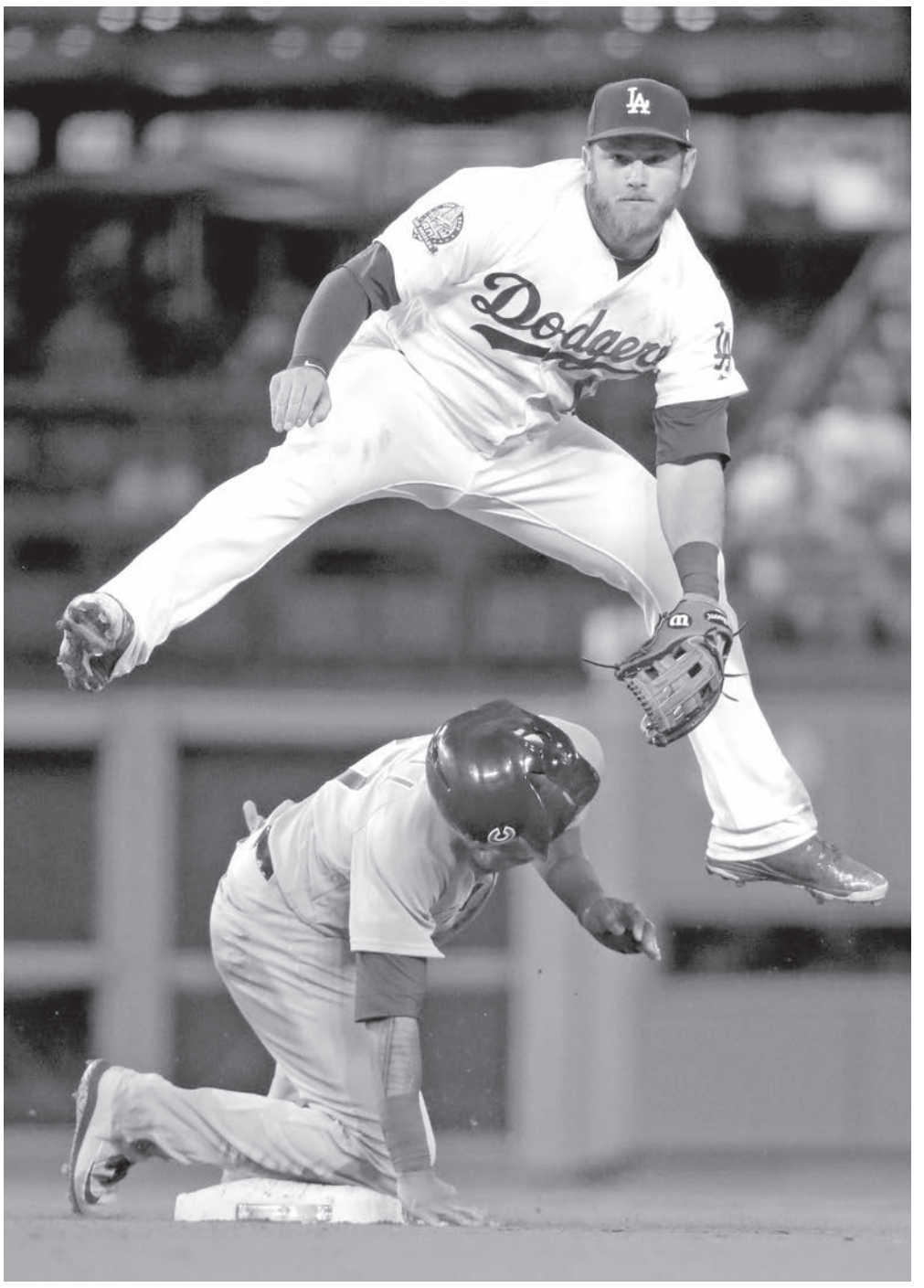
Chicago lost its fifth straight, to tie a season high, after getting swept over four games at Cincinnati. The Cubs have scored a combined 13 runs over their past five games.

Hernandez has six home runs, nine RBI and a .773 slugging percentage over his last 13 games. Hernandez also went deep twice Sunday. He has a career-high 13 home runs, surpassing his 12 from 2017.

A nagging hamstring injury to Chris Taylor—he came off the bench for a pinch-homer Monday—has given Hernandez more chances to deliver of late.

"I would say that getting a little more playing time over these last two, three weeks has definitely helped me to stay sharp," said Hernandez, who hit three home runs against the Cubs in Game 5 of last year's NL Championship Series-clinching victory.

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts gave extended runs to offensive performers like Taylor and Austin Barnes in the second half of last season. Max Muncy has earned at-bats this year with 15 home runs and 32 RBI.



AP

Chicago Cubs' Addison Russell, bottom, is forced out at second by Los Angeles Dodgers shortstop Enrique Hernandez after Albert Almora Jr. hit into a double play during the eighth inning of a baseball game in Los Angeles, Monday, June 25, 2018.

Rays 11, Nationals 0

In St. Petersburg, Blake Snell took a no-hitter into the seventh inning, Kevin Kiermaier hit a grand slam and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Washington Nationals.

Wilson Ramos homered twice and rookie Jake Bauers had four hits in the Rays' fourth straight win.

Yankees 4, Phillies 2

In Philadelhia, Jonathan Loaisiga took a no-hitter into the sixth inning, Aaron Judge ripped his 20th homer and the Yankees snapped a three-game losing streak.

Loaisiga (2-0) didn't allow a hit until Jorge Alfaro lined a single to right leading off the sixth.

Braves 5, Reds 4, 11 innings

In Atlanta, Ozzie Albies homered in the 11th inning off Dylan Floro (0-1), and Atlanta snapped Cincinnati's seven-game winning streak.

Albies knocked Floro's first pitch, a changeup, into the right-field seats. Albies doubled twice and scored two runs before hitting Atlanta's fifth game-ending homer this season.

Cardinals 4, Indians 0

In St. Louis, spot starter John Gant (2-2) pitched one-hit ball over a career-high seven innings and Marcell Ozuna hit a two-run double for St. Louis

It was the third consecutive win for the Cardinals and the 10,000th regular season victory for the franchise. St. Louis joined the Braves, Cubs, Giants, Pirates and Dodgers among NL teams to reach the milestone.

Athletics 5, Tigers 4

In Detroit, Jed Lowrie hit a tie-breaking solo homer in the top of the ninth inning to lift Oakland over Detroit on a historic day for Edwin Jackson.

Jackson allowed a run and six hits in six innings in his first appearance for the A's, tying a record by playing for his 13th major league team. Called up from Triple-A, the 34-year-old righty matched the mark for most clubs set by former reliever Octavio Dotel.

Blue Jays 6, Astros 3

In Houston, Toronto's Curtis Granderson homered in consecutive at-bats against Justin Verlander, and Randal Grichuk added a two-run shot and a huge defensive play.

Granderson's leadoff shot in the fifth tied it at 3. He connected again with two out in the seventh, belting an opposite-field drive off Verlander (9-3).

Rangers 7, Padres 4

In Arlington, Shin-Soo Choo extended his career-best on-base streak to 38 games with three hits, including the tie-breaking RBI single in Texas' strange five-run outburst.

Robinson Chirinos had two hits and two RBI for Texas, which has won eight of its last nine games. Tony Barnette (2-0) got the win.

Mariners 5, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Dee Gordon's slick seventh-inning bunt was the lone hit in a two-run uprising that put Seattle ahead for good, and the Mariners beat the Orioles for just their second win in eight games.

Denard Span homered for the Mariners.

Marlins 9, Diamondbacks 5

In Miami, Brian Anderson and Cameron Maybin each drove in two runs, helping Miami spoil Shelby Miller's return to the mound after missing over a year for Tommy John surgery.

Dan Straily (3-3) allowed three runs in 6 1/3 innings for the Marlins, who have won three in a row.

Pirates 6, Mets 4

In New York, Josh Bell hit a two-run homer, Gregory Polanco also went deep and the Pirates took advantage of some dreadful defense by the Mets to snap a five-game losing streak.

In a series opener between tumbling teams, Pittsburgh built a five-run lead and held on to hand the Mets their seventh straight defeat before a mostly quiet crowd of 22,135. New York is 6-24 in its last 30 games.

Royals 2, Angels 0

In Kansas City, Brad Keller pitched seven innings of two-hit ball, helping the Royals beat the Angels in the makeup of a game that was frozen out in April.

Kevin McCarthy struck out Chris Young and retired Ian Kinsler to strand a runner on third base in the eighth, and Wily Peralta ended the three-hitter by working around Albert Pujols' single in the ninth.

Federer cautious of Nadal threat at Wimbledon

LONDON—Having seen longtime rival Rafael Nadal tighten his iron-grip on Roland Garros, Roger Federer aims to extend his personal dominance of Wimbledon by claiming a ninth title at the All England Club.

Despite his 37th birthday fast approaching, and having been stunned by Borna Coric in the Halle grasscourt final last weekend, Federer will still start Wimbledon as the overwhelming favourite to clinch a 21st major.

Federer set new records 12 months ago when he defeated a hobbling Marin Cilic in the final, becoming both the tournament's oldest champion and first to claim eight titles.

That victory came after he decided to skip the entire claycourt season, a strategy he repeated this year as the Swiss sit at home watching Nadal romp to an 11th French Open.

"I'm really going to love going to Wimbledon but being the defending champion always creates pressure," said Federer, who was quick to shrug off his loss to Coric which ended a 20-match win streak on grass.

A week earlier, he had been buoyed by capturing the grass court title at Stuttgart.

"Regardless of whether I won or lost in Halle I will be one of the favorites at Wimbledon."

Federer won his first Wimbledon—and maiden Slam title—in 2003.

Since that time he has added seven more at the All England Club with Nadal wining twice, Novak Djokovic three times and Andy Murray taking two titles.

Lleyton Hewitt, back in 2002, was the last man outside the modern-day 'Big Four' to win the championship.

Hardly surprising then that Federer cannot see any great upheaval anytime soon, even tipping Nadal—and his notoriously unreliable knees on a grass court—to go deep in the tournament.

"I think Rafa is one of the big favourites," said Federer who famously lost the 2008 final to the Spaniard in what widely regarded as one of the finest Slam showdown of all time.

"When Rafa is healthy, anything is possible for him."

Nadal's Grand Slam count now stands at 17, just three behind Federer with whom he has split the last six majors.

The world number one has endured a bittersweet relationship with Wimbledon despite being champion in 2008 and 2010.

He missed the 2009 tournament with injury and since finishing runner-up to Djokovic in 2011, has gone out in the second round in 2012, first round in 2013 and last 16 in 2014.

In 2015, he was beaten in the second round, missed 2016 while, 12 months ago, lost 15-13 in the fifth set to Luxembourg journeyman Gilles Muller in the fourth round.

After winning Roland Garros this month, Nadal hinted he may skip Wimbledon and also sat out Queen's.

But the 32-year-old Spaniard has been practicing on grass in Mallorca and is cautiously optimistic.

"I had to spend time adapting physically and in my tennis to the surface," said Nadal.

"I will certainly arrive at Wimbledon with less preparation, but I'm going with confidence high because I played very well through the whole claycourt season."

Djokovic, the 2011, 2014 and 2015 champion, retired with an elbow injury in the quarterfinals in 2017 as his form continued to sink after the emotional high of completing the career Grand Slam at Roland Garros 12 months earlier.

Like Nadal, Djokovic had hinted he may sit out Wimbledon after the indignity of losing to world number 72 Marco Cecchinato in the French Open quarter-finals.

But the rejuvenated 12-time major winner shook off the self-doubt and made the Queen's final at the weekend, losing to Cilic despite having had a match point.

Djokovic is at least back in the top 20 unlike 2013 and 2016 Wimbledon champion Murray who is ranked at 156.

Harden wins MVP award over LeBron and Davis

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Third time was the charm for James Harden.

The Houston Rockets star was voted the NBA's Most Valuable Player after twice being runner-up, beating out four-time winner LeBron James and Anthony Davis of the Pelicans at the NBA Awards on Monday night.

Harden joined Michael Jordan as the only players to average at least 20 points, eight assists, five rebounds and 1.7 steals in a season.

He led the league in scoring, 3-pointers and 50-point games with four while helping the Rockets to an NBA-leading 65 wins.

"The last four years have been like knocking on the door, knocking on the door. Now the moment is finally here," Harden said backstage. "Just every single year you try to come back and be better than you were the year before, and just to be holding that trophy finally, it means a lot."

AP

Houston Rockets' James Harden, center, shoots as San Antonio Spurs' Derrick White, bottom, defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game Monday, March 12, 2018, in Houston.

James didn't attend the show in Barker Hangar at the Santa Monica Airport amid frenzied speculation about his future. He has until Friday to tell the Cavaliers if he will pick up his $35.6 million option for next season or opt for free agency.

Harden, who is from Los Angeles, led his mother on stage before he accepted the trophy from Commissioner Adam Silver.

"I'm not going to get emotional," he said from behind dark sunglasses. "She's my backbone in good times and bad times."

Harden received a total of 965 points and 86 first-place votes. James finished second with 738 points and 15 first-place votes, while Davis was third with 445 points and no first-place votes.

Harden didn't prepare a speech.

"I felt like last year I should have won as well, so I didn't see a difference between last year and this year," he said backstage. "If I won it, then I was going to go off the top and try to show my appreciation to everybody helping me along the way."

Harden's teammate, Chris Paul, popped up among reporters backstage and asked Harden how many bottles of liquor Rockets CEO Tad Brown would have to buy at the next location.

"Couple cases," Harden said, grinning.

The Rockets had another winner in Daryl Morey, who was honored as Executive of the Year.

In other awards, Guard Victor Oladipo of the Indiana Pacers earned Most Improved Player.

He averaged 23.1 points in his first season with the Pacers while nabbing his first All-Star berth. He also led the league in steals for the first time.

The Defensive Player of the Year went to center Rudy Gobert of the Utah Jazz.

He was the leading vote-getter for the league's All-Defensive first team while anchoring a Jazz defense that ranked second in the NBA in defensive rating.

Lou Williams of the Los Angeles Clippers took Sixth Man honors.

The guard became the first player to average at least 20 points for the first time in his 13th season or later. He led the league in fourth-quarter points and scoring average.

Williams kissed his two young daughters on his way to the stage after becoming the Clippers' third winner in the last five years.

Dwane Casey was chosen Coach of the Year for his work with the Toronto Raptors, who fired him last month. He has since become coach of the Detroit Pistons.

"Can't look in the rear view mirror," Casey said backstage. "Winston Churchill said success is measured by failure, failure, and then come back with enthusiasm, and that's what I've done."

Casey led the Raptors to the No. 1 seed in the East for the first time in franchise history after winning a team-record 59 games. Casey coached the East in the All-Star Game for the first time.

Casey won over Quin Snyder of Utah and Brad Stevens of Boston.

Robertson received the Lifetime Achievement Award from presenters Charles Barkley and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

After Barkley mentioned last year's recipient Bill Russell, Boston's Hall of Fame center flipped his middle finger in Barkley's direction.

Robertson is the career leader in triple-doubles and was the first player to average one for a season. His antitrust case against the NBA also ushered in free agency for players, which Robertson said was his most important assist.

Robertson went on to say he hopes "the whites and the blacks get together, even with the football," a reference to NFL players who have taken a knee or sat in silence during the national anthem to protest police brutality and racial inequality.

Former NBA player Dikembe Mutombo received the Sager Strong Award, named for the late Turner Sports broadcaster. He donned a garish sports coat similar to what Craig Sager always wore.

The Hustle Award went to Amir Johnson of the 76ers.

Simmons is Rookie of the Year

Australia's Ben Simmons has been named NBA rookie of the year.

The Philadelphia 76ers' star took the coveted honour at the annual NBA Awards held in Los Angeles ahead of the Utah Jazz's Donovan Mitchell and Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum.

The award is decided by members of the US and Canadian sports media with a deadline for voting back in April, something that worked in the Australian's favor.

It was the end of the NBA regular season when Simmons was leading the 76ers, without injured All-Star teammate Joel Embiid, on a record-winning streak.

A period in which he was regularly dropping triple-doubles put him in the rare statistical air of greats like Magic Johnson and Oscar Robertson.

It was, however, after the vote deadline when Mitchell, an outspoken critic of Simmons' favoritism for the award, was sensational in the Jazz's playoff run.

If the ballot deadline was after the playoffs Tatum's case also might have been stronger.

He stepped up for the injury-ravaged Celtics as they went head-to-head with LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference Finals.

Melbourne-born Simmons, by contrast, was much less effective in a playoff defeat to the Celtics.

Unable to make many match defining contributions in the series, questions were raised over his inability to make and take mid-range and three-point shots.

Mitchell has been vocal in calling for Simmons, who was injured the entire 2016/17 season, to not even be classed as a rookie because he benefited from being with the 76ers for that first year after being drafted.

Simmons sat out the first year of his contract with a fractured foot.

Mitchell wore pointed shirts to games, including one that defined the word rookie as: "An athlete playing his or her first season as a member of a professional sports team."

Simmons helped lead the Sixers to the second round of the playoffs, averaging 15.8 points, 8.2 assists, 8.1 rebounds and 1.7 steals in 81 games.

Mitchell continued his campaign against Simmons even to the last, turning up for the awards night in a mini-van emblazoned with the word: 'ROOKIE?'.

However, when Simmons was announced as the winner, Mitchell got out of his seat and hugged the Australian.

"Wow," said Simmons, after a slow walk up to the stage.

"I'd like to thank my family and friends to start with. I wouldn't be here without them."

He joins a "who's who" of the greats of the game with past winners of the coveted prize including Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, Wilt Chamberlain, LeBron James, Tim Duncan, Allen Iverson and Kevin Durant.

Australian-born Kyrie Irving also won the award in 2012.

Watson eyes World Golf Hall of Fame

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Bubba Watson keeps adding his name to the history book. One day it could be in the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Sunday at the Travelers Championship, Watson picked up the 12th victory of his career, which includes two Masters titles and a World Golf Championship. He once joked about retiring after 10 wins, but with three PGA Tour victories this season, the 39-year-old is showing no signs of slowing down.

"It's been an amazing ride," Watson said following a final-round seven-under 63 to win by three over Stewart Cink, Beau Hossler, J.B. Holmes and Paul Casey after starting the final round six strokes back of Casey. "My whole career, but this year has been outstanding. After last year, who knows what to expect."

Few would have predicted a turnaround like this.

Last year, Watson made a dubious change in golf balls, going from Titleist to Volvik, and battled undisclosed health issues, losing 20 pounds in the process. His results suffered, too. Watson registered just three top-10 finishes and missed more cuts (seven) than he had in nearly a decade. His World Ranking also plummeted as he dropped outside the top 50 and eventually to 117th earlier this year.

Then came the Genesis Open. Healthy and back to playing his previous golf ball, Watson ended a two-year winless drought and joined Ben Hogan as the only players to have won three times at Riviera and twice at Augusta National.

Saolak Camacho rules Monday Night League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saolak Camacho nosed out the Pin Busters for the top honors in the 27th Philippine Bowling Association-Budweiser Monday Night League.

Saolak Camacho completed the 16-week competition with a 43-21 record to lead the eight-team field. Pin Busters finished second with its 42-22 mark, while Team Unity (38.5-25.5) and Saipan Bowling Center (36.5-25.7) rounded out the Top 4 teams that were recognized during the award ceremony early this month at SBC.

Janice, Diony, Diana, Julian, and Joyce Camacho are the members of the champion team, which collected 36,596 pins and had an average of 621 with a handicap of 147. Saolak recorded a 713 (high game), 888 (handicap game) and 1,921 and 2,434 high game series and handicap, respectively.

Other teams that joined the weekly tournament were J's Restaurant (30-34), IT&E Unlimited (30-34), Ollek Turkey (25-39), and Motion 2 Strike (10-54).

SBC won the team scratch game and series after posting 823 and 2,243 and edging IT&E Unlimited (809 and 2,165). The Pin Busters were ranked third in both categories after logging 776 and 2,137.

IT&E then prevailed in the handicap game with its 911, beating Ollek Turkey (909), SBC (900), and J's Restaurant (900). In the handicap series, J's Restaurant stood tall with its 2,585 defeating the 2,491 and 2,487 of Pin Busters and Ollek Turkey, respectively.

Players of Saolak Camacho, left photo, and Pin Busters, pose with their trophies during the awards ceremony for the 27th Philippine Bowling Association-Budweiser Monday Night League early this month at the Saipan Bowling Center. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SPAIN

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to finish first and second," Spain coach Fernando Hierro said. "And I have to say we were lucky to finish first."

The decision set off a touchline melee among players from both sides.

Hierro took over as Spain coach on the eve of the World Cup when Julen Lopetegui was fired after taking the job at Real Madrid. Now he is heading to the World Cup's knockout stage.

"Obviously we can improve," Hierro said. "Five goals in three matches, that is not the way forward. That is what I have told my players, and they understand that."

A rare mix-up by Andres Iniesta and Sergio Ramos gifted Morocco its first goal of the World Cup, with Khalid Boutaib pouncing on the loose ball and scoring in the 14th minute. Iniesta made amends five minutes later by setting up Isco at the other end with a clever cut back pass to bring Spain level at halftime.

Youssef En Nesyri then headed in a goal in the 81st minute to give already-eliminated Morocco hope of a victory.

"We haven't really won anything yet. It's been a very tough match," Isco said. "Maybe we weren't focused from the very beginning. We needed them to score on us to force us to react."

Spain may be through and is now on a 23-match unbeaten run, but it was far from convincing in group play and again displayed defensive frailties to concede twice against a Morocco team that hadn't scored a goal in its two previous group matches.

Portugal 1, Iran 1

Cristiano Ronaldo's missed penalty cost Portugal first place in its World Cup group.

It could have been worse if not for Ricardo Quaresma, who started for the first time in the tournament and scored his maiden World Cup goal with a shot that had about as much flare as any in the tournament.

Portugal finished second in Group B after a 1-1 draw with Iran on Monday. The 2016 European champions will next face Uruguay on Saturday in the round of 16.

"The conclusion and the most important thing is we're going to continue playing," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said. "We had a strong opponent."

Quaresma became the only player other than Ronaldo to score for the Portuguese in three games in Russia. The 34-year-old midfielder also became Portugal's oldest scorer in World Cup play by hitting a curling shot from the edge of the penalty area that went beyond the reach of diving Iran goalkeeper Ali Beiranvand.

Ronaldo—who had scored all four Portugal goals in its first two games of Group B play—was denied on his penalty by Beiranvand's dive toward the right post in the second half.

"We were on top of the game until the penalty, and we didn't make it. It wasn't perfect, but that's football," Santos said. "We did what was expected and now we have to settle down and think about Uruguay."

Karim Ansarifard scored a late penalty for Iran, which need to win to advance, but couldn't break through a second time despite a furious charge in the waning minutes. The Mordovia arena momentarily vibrated from the sound of Iran fans' roars when Mehdi Taremi hit the side of the net from 6 yards out.

The penalty against Portugal was awarded after a video review showed a handball in the area. But although Iran coach Carolos Queiroz benefited from that review, he railed against the system for the second day in a row. In particular, he cited a decision to give Ronaldo a yellow card after his elbow struck Iran defender Morteza Pouraliganji in the face in the second half.

Uruguay 3, Russia 0

Luis Suarez finally got rattled at this year's World Cup.

Sitting at the podium in the post-match news conference following Uruguay's victory over Russia, a reporter asked him why he often wore a sad expression.

Suarez tossed aside his translation headphones, then smiled broadly in defiance and finally said: "What a waste of time. Next question please."

Other than that little blip, Suarez has been on his best behavior in Russia, scoring twice as Uruguay swept through the group stage with three straight victories—sending the two-time champions to the knockout round for the third straight World Cup.

Edinson Cavani also scored Monday against the host nation, which dropped its first match of the tournament.

Both teams were already assured of spots in the knockout round, but Uruguay's victory put it at the top of Group A and looking toward a match in Sochi on Saturday against Portugal.

Uruguay, which also benefited from an own-goal in the first half, had its third straight shutout of the tournament after consecutive 1-0 victories over Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The Uruguayans and goalkeeper Fernando Muslera have not allowed a goal in any of the team's six matches this year.

Saudi Arabia 2, Egypt 1

The oldest person to play in a World Cup match made some spectacular saves Monday. He also watched two go past him.

Egypt goalkeeper Essam El Hadary, who is 45, took the field for his team's final group match to set the record. Although he saved one penalty, he couldn't stop Saudi Arabia from winning 2-1 in a game between two teams that had already been eliminated.

"I am very sorry for the fans, for everyone in Egypt," El Hadary said. "I want to thank my teammates. It was a great honor for me to play."

Salem Aldawsari scored the winner for the Saudis with almost the last kick of the match, volleying past El Hadary from a tight angle inside the Egypt penalty area.

Mohamed Salah, playing for the second time since injuring his left shoulder in last month's Champions League final, had put Egypt ahead in the 22nd minute after deftly controlling a long ball from Abdalla Said and then lobbing goalkeeper Yasser Almosailem.

It was Salah's second goal at the World Cup, and Egypt's first in open play at the World Cup since 1934.

Salman Alfaraj got the Saudis level with a penalty kick in first-half stoppage time after Ali Gabr brought down Fahad Almuwallad in the area. The decision was confirmed after a video review and the penalty was taken in the sixth minute of injury time.

"I think that in general we kept control of the pace, we kept possession ... and I think that we deserved to win," Saudi coach Juan Antonio Pizzi said. "Talking about the future, well, the association will have to decide what they're going to do."

Almuwallad had earlier missed a chance to equalize when El Hadary saved his penalty. The veteran goalkeeper dived to his right and flicked his left hand up to push the shot onto the bar before it was cleared.

FIBA

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seven-year residency, while a three-year residency was implemented for Micronesian athletes living here.

Mariana Islands Basketball Federation official Elias Rangamar expressed his disappointment on the new rules during the NMSA meeting early this month and said the decision made a few months before the Micro Games kicks off is unfair to the players who have been training with the team since Day 1 only to find out they will not be able to make the trip to Yap. He requested that Northern Marianas Sports Association, on behalf of MIBF, write a letter to the Council to appeal the contested eligibility rules. NMSA head Michael White, who missed the Council meeting when it voted in favor of the FIBA rules, did write a letter to the decision-makers, while Chuuk and Kosrae followed suit, as they have the same dilemma.

"I sent an email message requesting postponement of the applicability of FIBA eligibility rules until the 2022 Micro Games," White told *Saipan Tribune*.

However, the Council stood by its earlier decision.

"The Council thought that the benefits of following FIBA regulations for all of us overruled any problem that we might have in the short term. Micro Games will now be used as a qualifying tournament for further FIBA events and will give our athletes a chance to participate at higher levels of international competition," Keldermans said.

"I am sorry if this has caused some problems, but the Council thought that it was a necessary step that must be taken. A vast majority of the athletes have been registered under the FIBA eligibility rules, over 95 percent," he added.

With this development, Rangamar said MIBF will be consulting with a lawyer to find out the legal actions that must be taken against the Council.

"We want to get something out of the damage they have done to the team, to the players, who have been working hard in practice only to be told they can't make it to the Games. They raised funds for the trip to Yap and other made sacrifices. Until now, they could not get over with the fact that they will not be able to play in the Micro Games," Rangamar said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Only basketball is following the eligibility rules of an international federation for the Micro Games that will run from July 15 to 27.

With the Council sticking to the FIBA eligibility rules, the CNMI's men's team only has 11 players and could be down to nine, as the squad is still waiting for the accreditation of two players (Kelvin Fitial and Thomas Kautz), who replaced Douglas Schmidt and N-Nes Siech (out due to the FIBA rules). Fitial and Kautz have registered with FIBA, but were added into the roster past the June 15 deadline of the Micro Games accreditation committee.

Rangamar is hoping the two players get consideration, as the new eligibility rules were announced months after MIBF had already named the members of the national team.

CNMI

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accompanied by umpire Michael Muna and Saipan Little League Baseball official Annie Flores.

"The boys are doing well in practice. We're polishing their basic skills and working on both their offense and defense," Camacho said, adding that Chinese-Taipei will be the CNMI's toughest opponent in the ASPAC.

Besides Chinese-Taipei and the CNMI, other teams vying for a World Series berth in the June 29 to July 6 tournament are Hong Kong, China, and host Philippines.

In the Senior League, there are more teams with the Commonwealth battling New Zealand, Hong Kong, Guam, Indonesia, India, and the host.

The CNMI Senior All-Star has Leveque Iguel, Vicente Camacho II, Josenio Alvarez, Kianna Aldan, Pedro Maratita, Jordan Babauta, Dennis Cabrera, Justin Peter Celis, Aven Evangelista, Joaquin Fleming, Trevon Lieto, Ignacio Mendiola, Donovan Deleon Guerrero, Joel Norita, Orren-Cody Cruz, and Arby Yaguel as members. Doru Camacho will manage the squad and will be assisted by coaches Juan Manibusan and Alfonso Evangelista. Completing the CNMI Senior League All-Star delegation is SLLB vice president A.J. Murig.

"We have a lot of power hitters and a deep bullpen, so we will use those advantage in our games in the Philippines. Guam, the Philippines, and Hong Kong will be tough to beat, but we can't underestimate New Zealand, India, and Indonesia," Doru Camacho said.

Junior League Finals: Comets 1 vs Falcons

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Comets 1 players and officials tip their hat to their fans after their title game against the Falcons in the Junior League division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

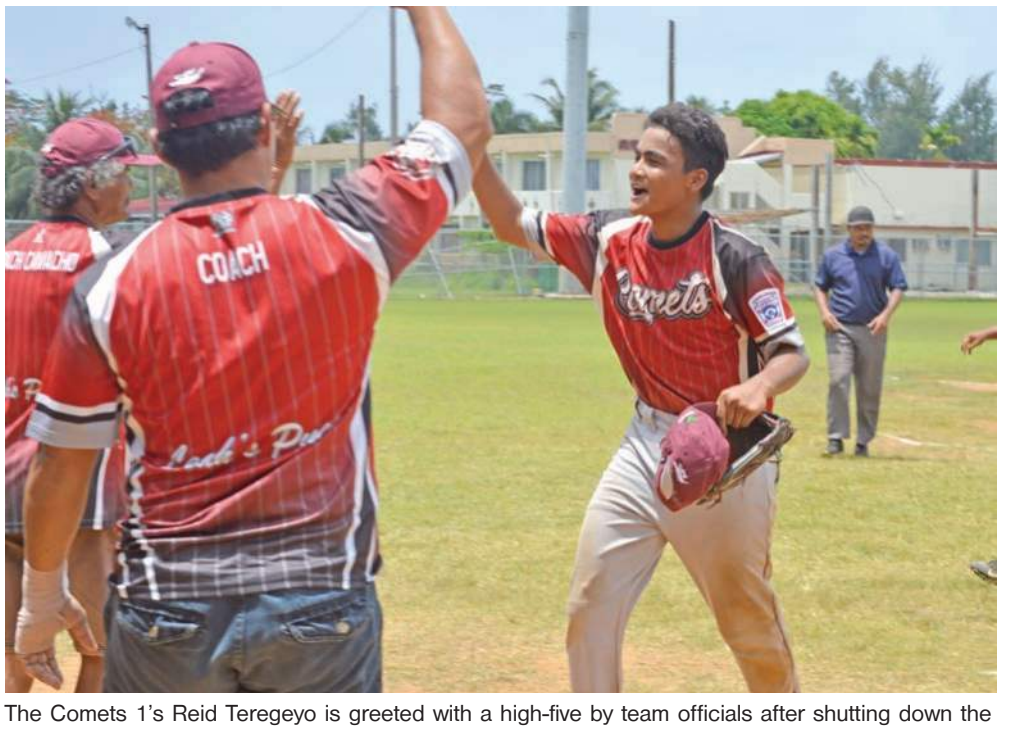
The Falcons' Keoni Serrano prepares to deliver a pitch to the Comets 1's Bing Nakamura.

Comets 1 manager Greg Camacho huddles with his players before heading out to the field.

The Comets 1's Reid Teregeyo swings for a two-RBI double at the bottom of the sixth inning.

Justin Agulto, left, and Jay Lifoifoi are all smiles as they watch teammate Reid Camacho gets ready at bat.

A Falcons batter walks to home plate, while manager Manny Evangelista heads to third base during the top of the seventh inning.



The Comets 1's Reid Teregeyo is greeted with a high-five by team officials after shutting down the Falcons in the sixth inning.

Falcons and Comets 1 players exchange high-fives after their title match.

Maeda, Hernandez lift Dodgers past Cubs

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Sports

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FIBA eligibility rules stay

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Micronesian Games Council slammed the door on teams, including the CNMI, appealing to forego the implementation of the FIBA eligibility rules in next month's Micronesian Games in Yap.

MICRO GAMES 2018
MORE THAN JUST GAMES

Council president Bill Keldermans, in an email message sent to sports association heads of the CNMI, Guam, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Kiribati, said he cannot change the decision made by his group.

"It is very hard for me to write this but I must. First let me say that there are no exemptions and we must follow the FIBA regulations. The Games Council made the decision and I cannot reverse their choice. The timing was not good, but all of your representatives on the Council knew about this and should have informed you long ago," Keldermans stated in the letter.

The FIBA eligibility rules for Micro Games say that for a basketball player to compete in the quadrennial event, he or she must be a citizen and passport holder of the country he or she is representing. In the CNMI's case, a player should be a U.S. citizen and must be born here or a U.S. citizen and at least has a grandparent born here. In the old eligibility rules, non-U.S. citizens were allowed to compete for the CNMI provided they meet the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jan Travilla, seen here going for a reverse layup during a title game in a local league last month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, will suit up for the CNMI Women's National Team that will play in next month's Micronesian Games in Yap.

CNMI Junior, Senior All-Stars off to ASPAC

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players of the CNMI Junior All-Star Team warm up during a training session at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield last Monday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior and Senior All-Stars will leave Saipan early tomorrow morning to compete in the 2018 Asia Pacific Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament that will start this weekend at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga, Philippines.

Both teams will board the 2am Asian Airlines flight bound for Incheon, South Korea for their connecting flight to the PH.

The CNMI Junior All-Star Team is bringing in 14 players and five officials in the World Series qualifier. The squad is headed by pitchers Bing Nakamura and Reid Teregeyo, while other members of the team are Justin Agulto, Nathan Aizon, Heath Camacho, Patrick Celis, Justin Magofna, Jonathan Riungel, Keoni Serrano, Antonio Norita, Alex Achas, Joseph Ada, Ohane Borja, and Jason Joseph Reyes. Greg Camacho is the manager, while Ned Norita and Herman Kintol are the coach and assistant coach, respectively. The squad will be

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Spain, Portugal survive crazy Day 12

AP
Iran goalkeeper Ali Beiranvand, left, and his teammate Saeid Ezatolahi try to catch the ball during the group B match at the 2018 soccer World Cup at the Mordovia Arena in Saransk, Russia, Monday, June 25, 2018.

MOSCOW (AP)—The first day of World Cup teams playing simultaneous matches to see who advances came down to the wire—and to video replays—that saw Spain emerge atop its group thanks to a tie-breaker. Spain got the point it needed when Iago Aspas flicked in a Dani Alves cross in stoppage time. Officials first called it offside but counted the goal after reviewing it.

Iran almost knocked out Portugal with penalty kick and a near-miss, both in injury time, but the draw was enough for the European champions to advance. They finished second since Spain scored one more goal in the group.

Portugal will face Uruguay, which took the top spot from Russia in a win earlier Monday. Russia plays Spain next.

Spain 2, Morocco 2

It took a video review of an injury-time equalizer to give Spain first place in its World Cup group.

Spain substitute Iago Aspas scored the late goal Monday in a 2-2 draw with Morocco. His clever deflection off a cross from Dani Carvajal was initially disallowed for offside, but the video assistant referee overruled the call at Kaliningrad Stadium.

"Until the last minute, we weren't sure who was going

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